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THE TIMES

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40p

IAN STEWART

Back on song: Ian Botham, playing again for England, dismisses Richie Richardson with his second ball in the Texaco Trophy match against West Indies. Report, page 40

Britain heads for clash over EC income tax plan

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU, EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE European Commission is planning to introduce a community-wide income tax in a move that is certain to provoke a new clash with Britain over sovereignty.

The proposal will be put to the inter-governmental conference on monetary union later this year and, if approved, incorporated into a revised Treaty of Rome.

Peter Schmidhuber, the budget commissioner who put forward the idea, said it was designed to guarantee financial autonomy for the community. A senior commission official added: "If we want to move towards a more federal structure, then surely this needs to be reflected in the field of taxation." But that view contrasts sharply with Britain's insistence that matters of taxation must remain the prerogative of national governments.

The likelihood of conflict over the proposal is increased by a parallel commission plan for the European Parliament to become the main constitutional body overseeing budget and tax policies. At the moment, the real power lies with the Council of Ministers, although the parliament has the right to veto budget proposals. Britain and France are adamantly opposed to such a shift of authority, while a minority of countries, led by Germany, strongly favour a greater role for the parliament.

Commission officials indicated yesterday that the proposed pan-European tax, agreed on May 6 but disclosed only yesterday, would be part of a radical reform of the community's income structure. That now depends largely on creaming off a part of each country's value-added tax receipts. An income tax is the favourite idea "because it is just and linked to ability to pay," one official said, but the commission is also considering an indirect levy on energy — which would lead to higher petrol prices — or a combination of taxes. A European poll tax was not under consideration.

Herr Schmidhuber said in Bonn yesterday that the commission had considered "one or several taxes". That form of words is designed to give the commission maximum leeway and to reduce the expected resistance from some member countries to the necessary adjustment to article 100 of the Treaty of Rome. The revision of the treaty is expected to be completed by the end of the year after the inter-government conference on a single European currency and the setting up of a central bank.

At present, the community has four principal sources of income: VAT receipts, customs duties, farm duties and direct contributions from member governments based on their gross national products.

Each country pays the first 1.4 per cent of its VAT revenue to the community, providing about 60 per cent of the EC's 65 billion ecu budget (about £45 billion). Customs duties provide a further 20 per cent and farm levies 5 per cent.

The VAT element renders the equivalent of £81 for every man, woman and child in the community. In theory, each country could reduce its VAT if the commission's proposal were implemented. In Britain, the rate could come down to 16.1 per cent. But in practice, national governments would be probably leave their rates unchanged, use the extra revenue for domestic purposes and levy the European tax on top of other charges.

The idea is bound to renew the controversy over a federal Europe and to provoke fierce resistance from Britain. The Treasury said last night that it was considering its response, but one Conservative MP was quick to condemn the notion.

Nicholas Budgen, MP for Wolverhampton South West, said: "It is absolutely ludicrous. Plainly it is not going anywhere, but it illustrates the quite incredible sense of effrontery of these people that they are prepared to air such views without understanding the sense anger and affront that many people who are opposed to a federal structure in Europe feel about this sort of thing. It is amazing that these European bureaucrats have the nerve to present these as a serious proposal."

TODAY IN THE TIMES

◆

INTERVIEW

Alan Ayckbourn is the most regularly performed playwright in Britain. Kate Muir interviews the bard of Scarborough **Page 12**

◆

OPINION

Lloyd's of London could go bust if it does not reform. But, Bernard Levin asks, is that no more than it deserves? **Page 14**

◆

BUSINESS

Creditors of Asil Nadir's collapsed Polly Peck group meet today to vote on liquidation or reconstruction. Angela Mackay reports **Page 23**

INDEX

Arts........13,18
Births, marriages, deaths..16,17
Classified........17,24,27-30
Court & social........16
Crosswords........17,20
Law Report........27
Leading articles........15
Letters........15
Life and Times........12
Obituaries........16
Parliament........8
TV & radio........19
Weather........20

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Major: series of speeches to promote Tory policies

Summer offensive planned by Tories

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE cabinet yesterday planned a relentless summer offensive to regain the initiative from Labour and an electoral strategy designed to take the government into next year if John Major decides against an autumn election.

The move came as an *opinion poll published* last night gave Labour an eight-point lead over the Tories, the widest margin since Mr Major became prime minister.

The NOP survey for BBC 2's *Newsnight* programme and *The Independent* put Labour on 44 per cent, the Conservatives on 36, (five points down on last month) and the Liberal Democrats on 15.

Yesterday's cabinet meeting agreed a number of policy documents on health, housing, crime prevention and the citizens' charter to be launched over the next few months. They will be supported by series of speeches by Mr Major, pulling together the threads of Tory policies.

An attack on Labour policies is also planned with the Tories hoping that Mr Major will be pitted in a presidential style contest against Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader.

NHS trusts, page 8

Sonia Gandhi turns down leadership

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

SONIA Gandhi yesterday rejected the offer to succeed her assassinated husband, Rajiv Gandhi, as leader of the Congress (I) party. She said in a brief statement that the tragedy that had befallen her and her children "does not make it possible for me to accept the presidentship".

Her rejection came as a humiliating blow to the party, struggling to avoid a damaging leadership contest during the throes of the general election. Senior party officials said they might again approach her if an acceptable leader could not be found quickly.

Forensic experts yesterday confirmed that Gandhi was assassinated by a woman who had strapped explosives to her body. The woman, yet to be identified, triggered the blast when she bowed to greet Gandhi. Subodh Kant Sahay, the home affairs minister, said. Subramaniam Swamy, India's law minister, said that prima facie evidence pointed to the involvement of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, which is fighting for a separate homeland in Sri Lanka. It has denied any involvement in the killing.

The Tigers regarded Gandhi as an enemy for attempting to close down their bases in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu, where the former prime minister was killed. He had also ordered Indian troops, stationed in Sri Lanka until 1989 under a government-to-government accord, to try to crush the rebels.

In turning down the Congress presidency, Mrs Gandhi said she was deeply touched by the trust placed in her. She said Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister, his daughter Indira Gandhi, and Rajiv Gandhi had dedicated their lives to the party and the country. She was confident that their memory and the memory of the sacrifices made by them and other Congressmen and women would "today enable the Congress to emerge even stronger".

Appearing composed, she went to Teen Murti House, where Gandhi is lying in state, and placed two new portraits of her husband near his flag-draped body. Gandhi's son Rahul, who will light the funeral pyre at 4pm today alongside the Jamuna river in Delhi, had his arm around his mother. Thousands of people queued to pay their respects. At one point a crowd tried to pull the flag away but police beat them back.

Congress leaders around the country continued to heap praise on Mrs Gandhi, saying she would make an excellent party leader, while rival parties said the attempt to enlist her was proof of Congress's bankruptcy. The failure of the party's policy-making body to consult her before unanimously electing her as president was a humiliating blunder. It was clearly aware of her reluctance to enter politics, and had attempted by its tactics to cajole her into taking up the mantle.

Political uncertainty increased last night with reports that President Venkataraman had taken informal soundings about the possibility of forming a government of national unity. Senior politicians said he gave them the impression that he was willing to cancel the final phases of the election.

Police hunt, page 9
Leading article, page 15

Baltic border posts wrecked by troops

From ANATOL LIEVEN IN VILNIUS

SOVIET troops yesterday destroyed Latvian and Lithuanian border posts along the whole line of the two republics' common border, leaving several Baltic border guards severely beaten.

The Soviet units came from Latvia and reportedly consisted of paratroops and Black Beret special forces. Two Latvian posts on the border with the Soviet republic of Belorussia were also destroyed.

The Latvian government has protested to President Gorbachev. Balts are asking themselves to what extent the Soviet High Command in the Baltic is acting without the approval of the president.

The attacks appear to form part of a concerted military campaign against the Baltic republics' attempts to set up sovereign frontiers. Audrius Butkevicius, director of the Lithuanian National Security Department, alleged the attacks were connected with attempts by Lithuania's Polish minority to set up their own autonomous region in the Vilnius area.

Aid signal, page 11

Thatcher's vision of home (authorised version)

By ANDREW PIERCE

SEASONED political observers were astonished by the interview with Mrs Thatcher in this month's *Vanity Fair*. The former prime minister was painted as a shattered figure who missed her old parliamentary routine so badly that she sometimes could not remember what day it was. "Home," she said in what has become the most famous quote of her retirement, "is where you come to when you have nothing better to do."

Or did she say it? Some two weeks after the article appeared, a transcript of the interview has been passed to *The Times*. It puts Mrs Thatcher's remarks in a totally different light and suggests the lady has been victim of a travesty of misquotation.

Far from expressing her own view on the home, Mrs Thatcher was commenting on the fact that when children grow up they move away. "We are a very close family," she said, "even though we do our own thing. That is what family life is about. This [home] is where you come to with your problems. This is from where you go to, to do what ever you wish. And sometimes if something happens and we don't see the family as often as we would wish, and they go off I say: 'Well, look, home is where you come to when you haven't anything better to do. We are always there'."

Though Mrs Thatcher has not complained publicly about the article, she is said to be deeply hurt by it. "It flew in the face of all she believes in about family life," one of her friends says. "She has always protected her family. This is one of the worse injustices she has suffered in an interview."

The hour-long interview was conducted in the US embassy in Washington by Maureen Orth. She first sought permission for it in January, but was turned down. She tried again, promising a "sympathetic piece" highlighting the fact that, compared with American presidents, Mrs Thatcher was deposed from office with very little financial support. The Thatcher Foundation was seeking funds in America. Her advisers recommended that the interview should go ahead.

Orth's tape recorder broke down during the interview, but Tory Central Office lent her their back-up recording. Within hours of the article's appearance *Vanity Fair*'s public relations company, Belinda Harley Associates, sent the media a three-page press release headed: "Maggie's own crisis in June Vanity Fair". Only one sentence was picked out in bold print: "Home is where you come to when you have nothing better to do." Newspaper columnists seized on it with glee.

Orth, who has interviewed George and Barbara Bush, said she had never experienced such a big reaction to an article. "I was surprised by the interpretation. We did not use the quote in full because it was so long. Are people really assuming that was Mrs Thatcher's view on her own home? That's awful. I'm so sorry."

Classical revival goes on trial at St Paul's

*The Prince of Wales yesterday unveiled a new plan for the St Paul's Cathedral precinct in London. **Gavin Stamp** pleads for it to be built.*

The re-redevelopment of Paternoster Square — the area north of St Paul's Cathedral — with the scheme unveiled by Paternoster Associates yesterday is of great importance for British architecture, for it will probably make or break the current Classical revival. Each building proposed for the site — all designed by members of an Anglo-American team of Classical architects — is faced in brick and stone and is overtly Classical.

This reflects the influence of the Prince of Wales, who saw off several semi and totally Modernist schemes for the site in his Mansion House speech in 1987 by comparing the effect of the Luftwaffe on London with that of Lord Holford, planner of the now unfashionable St Paul's Precinct which is to be replaced. Two years later, in his *Vision of Britain*, Prince Charles said that "Paternoster Square has become central to the argument between modernist and traditional architecture, or, as I'd rather put it, the argument between the inhuman and the human."

St Paul's was not intended to be seen in a wide open space. London is not Paris, and following the rejection of his naive post-Great Fire plan for the City, Wren designed a compromise: a building in the new Classical style which fitted in to the tight medieval street plan of London. The enclosure of the old St Paul's Churchyard allowed no distant views, so Wren gave his Cathedral projections and recessions to be appreciated up close. Only the great dome and the upper order of Corinthian pilasters was intended to be seen from afar over the rooftops of the City.

When Lord Holford's plan was published in 1956, Sir

Continued on page 20, col 1

Leading article, page 15

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MPs challenge bank governor to practise what he preaches

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE government yesterday signalled its irritation with the 17 per cent pay increase awarded to the governor of the Bank of England as MPs urged Robin Leigh-Pemberton to practise the wage restraint he preaches.

Downing Street refused to comment on the increase, which was made public at an embarrassing time for John Major and senior ministers, who have been pleading for wage restraint. Senior Whitehall sources said the prime minister had been aware of the increase to £155,019 in Mr Leigh-Pemberton's salary for some time but said it was not for him to approve or disapprove of it. The sources said that in the two previous years the governor had rises of only 4 per cent but they were taken aback when told that in 1988 the increase had been 22.9 per cent. As the governor arrived at a Building Societies' Association lunch in Glasgow, he said: "I practise what I preach." His salary, he said, should be judged on the increases over the past three years which average 8 per cent a year.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton's salary includes a notional rent for a flat in London which he can use. His second term as governor ends in 1993 and his pension from the post includes a element of index-linking. A spokesman for the Bank of England refused to give details of the sub-committee of the bank's non-executive directors that undertook a review of salaries.

However, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, made clear the government's unhappiness at the increase. "Frankly, I do not think it is very sensible to give two annual increases of 4 per cent and then find you have to catch up with a large 17 per cent increase".

Tony Blair, the shadow employment secretary, accused the governor of double standards. "It is a bit difficult to see how this could possibly be approved in the present circumstances. On the one hand people are being told by the prime minister and indeed by the governor himself that they should exercise restraint and on the other hand they do not see the restraint being exercised by those who are making the call for it."

In the City, people pointed to the salary that the governor could command in the private sector and the Bank of England compared his salary with those being paid to the chairman of the big clearing banks. The National Westminster Bank chairman's salary for 1990 was £321,225, Barclays £404,067, Lloyds £212,819, Midland £295,703, TSB £241,238 and Standard Chartered £260,998.

As the clash over the governor's 17 per cent rise developed, the Labour party criticised businessmen for greedily awarding themselves huge pay increases at a time when it said many workers were taking pay cuts and shareholders' earnings had dropped.

Labour said the big salary increases reflected an insatiable appetite for corporate greed that highlighted an damaging attitude in industry and hampered Britain's long-term development.

While employees and shareholders suffered from the effects of a recession which has brought rising unemployment and slumping profits, the Opposition said many directors of big companies appeared to be exempt from cuts. "How can organisations such as the Confederation of British Industry have the audacity to demand pay restraint when such outrageous greed is prevalent amongst its members?," Marjorie Mowlam, Labour's spokesman on City and corporate affairs, asks.

In a briefing document prepared to assist Labour MPs in their campaigning on the effects of the government's economic policies, Miss Mowlam has prodnced the details of pay rises awarded to leading industrialists and contrasted them with the earnings per share and losses suffered by some of the companies. Her research shows that at Christie's International, where earnings per share dropped by 38.5 per cent between 1989 and 1990, the managing director's salary rose by 19 per cent to £226,000 and the salary of the chairman, Lord Carrington, increased by 13 per cent to £165,000. The salary of Roger Neville, the group chief executive of Sun Alliance Insurance, rose by 12.4 per cent to £259,000 though the firm suffered a loss of £181 million, while Lord Tombs, chairman of Rolls-Royce, had a pay increase of 51 per cent to £180,000 but earnings per share fell by 34 per cent. Rolls-Royce has announced 6,000 job losses.

Leading article, page 15
Business News, page 21

Ban on pit bulls brings confusion and vigilante fear

By BILL FROST AND ROBERT MORGAN

LABOUR yesterday criticised government proposals to ban American pit bull terriers, saying they were unworkable in the absence of a national dog registration scheme. Opposition backbenchers also urged Angela Rumbold, the Home Office minister, to extend ownership prohibition to other dangerous breeds.

Against a background of growing confusion over the precise nature of government plans to deal with fighting dogs, the National Canine Defence League expressed fears yesterday of vigilante action in advance of legislation. The warning came as police in east London questioned four men after a Staffordshire bull terrier had been clubbed to death.

Tony Power, aged 45, and his girl friend were woken when a gang broke into their home in Leytonstone. Mr Power was struck on the head with a hurling stick before the gang found the dog and beat it to death.

The National Canine Defence League and the RSPCA repeated calls to Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, to clarify his plans and reconsider the wholesale destruction of pit bulls. The League said: "The government must consult properly with the relevant organisations involved with dogs and dog owners to produce a swift, but considered and practical solution rather than exploit a tide of publicity for political ends."

Animal welfare organisations pressed the home secretary to abandon mass slaughter of pit bulls in favour of a neutering programme and the introduction of a registration scheme. But in the Commons, Mrs Rumbold said she could see no case for a register. In a written reply, Tony Baldry, a junior environment minister, said a registration scheme would be "bureaucratic, expensive and difficult to enforce". However, measures would be introduced in April requiring dogs to have collars and name tags.

Roger Mugford, a leading animal psychologist, said yesterday that the owners of pit bull terriers fell into three categories: the criminal psychopath, the social inadequate and the innocent abroad. "The first group use the animal for fighting or as protection while dealing in drugs; the second have the animals to compensate for a lack of machismo; those in the third category simply do not realise what they have got at the end of the lead.

"While most dogs with behaviour problems will respond to treatment, the pit bull is an all but hopeless case. The only advice I can offer owners is to have the dog muzzled at all times, or put it down."

Two men were remanded on bail in Bristol yesterday accused of causing unnecessary suffering to a cat which was said to have died in a street attack by a Staffordshire bull terrier.

In Chesterfield, Derbyshire, a boy, aged four, was admitted to hospital after being attacked by a doberman. Jason Davis had stitches in three scalp wounds and a cut on his forehead.

Hamburg takes lead on licensing

By ALICE THOMSON

HAMBURG yesterday became the first German state to enforce a licensing system for breeding and owning fighting dogs.

In legal terms, possessing a dangerous dog is considered similar to having an offensive weapon. Alcoholics and convicted criminals will not be allowed to keep a dog. Other states are expected to pass similar legislation.

The Japanese Kennel Club says there is no tradition of fighting dogs in Japan. Shibas, a Japanese breed about 15in tall, is the most popular dog and most dogs are pedigreed and registered.

Certain breeds are designated "national treasures" and have strict export licences and controls. The Japanese Tosa, sometimes cross-bred in Britain, weighs an average 80kg and is not considered dangerous in Japan.

Concern over recent attacks has been echoed in Ireland. The government is to order the deaths of all pit bull terriers to co-ordinate with British legislation. There are an estimated 2,000 pit bull terriers in the republic, with some thought to be used for staged fights. In The Netherlands all dogs must be registered and owners must have third-party insurance, which has higher rates for dogs likely to be aggressive. A policy of neutering fighting breeds has begun.

Pit bull terriers have been banned in parts of Belgium for three years after a spate of attacks in The Netherlands but decisions were left to local authorities. Iceland is the only country that has banned all dogs from cities. The ban proved impossible to enforce, however, and dogs are now allowed on a limited basis.

In the United States each state has different regulations. In New York, where there is the biggest concentration, dogs are allowed in public only on a leash. Last year the health department tried to ban the pit bull after it became popular with drug dealers, and the city prohibited new pit bulls being taken into the city. Those already there had to be sterilized and muzzled, but protests forced the rules to be withdrawn.

In France, any dog sold must be tattooed with a registration number.

Clarke rejects 'tests chaos'

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

KENNETH Clarke, the education secretary, last night rejected claims that children aged seven were left in tears and that classrooms were in chaos as they took the national curriculum tests.

His response came after a survey from the National Union of Teachers reported that the tests were disrupting teaching and damaging the education of primary pupils.

"The vast majority of parents want their children to be tested, overwhelming numbers of teachers see the need for tests and most children cope well with them," Mr Clarke said. "When it becomes clear that some adjustments are required, I will act."

Anne Moran, president of the NUT and head of Castletown primary school, Sunderland, said that teaching time was disrupted and that discipline had collapsed in some schools, where the tests had broken the special relationship between young children and their teachers. Describing a science test to discover the difference between floating and sinking, Mrs Moran said: "You can imagine what happens when you have a baby bath full of water in the middle of the classroom and the teacher is concentrating on the four children who are doing the task and not the other 24."

The questionnaire was completed by 1,226 teachers in 18,000 primary schools. Seventy-five per cent of teachers reported worse classroom behaviour and 95 per cent said that test results taught them nothing about pupils they did not know already.

SILVER DOLLAR

*Dead goldfish in the bathtub
And a well run dry
Packed into a smoke-filled room
Only good money could buy*

*A candle lit from both ends
Left hand played against right
Wealth turned to raw power
Beneath the gaze of the neon light*

Dedicated to my grandfather Joseph Chester Kime (Kime and Bonebrake, J.C. & E.K., photographers, Akron). A pioneer in color photography, he bought his wife Margaret "Peg" C. Martin, a high school classmate of John S. Knight, a Willys Knight (whose namesake W.J. Willy died with Joseph Patrick Kennedy, Jr. in 1944. (Joe Jr.'s sister Kick's husband William, Marquess of Hartington, also died that year. (Kick died in '48.))) He died of alcoholism in 1944 (2/2) leaving 3 children: Joseph, Janet and William (of DePere, Wisconsin and salesman for Employers' Insurance of Wausau (dec'd. '86 leaving 3 children.))

And to W.E. Wright who was found dead in the backseat of his car by the chauffer on 11/18/29.

Please see my ads in the 11/30/90 Times of London (p.11); 3/1/91 New York Times (p. A6); 3/31/91 Boston Globe (p. 26); 4/26/91 Atlanta, Georgia Constitution (p. A6). Always remember Alice Cooper's "Billion Dollar Babies" and watch out for spiders!

*Richard Bruce Wright, II
b. 8/31/60, c. 9 am; Akron, Ohio, USA*

An RUC officer inspecting the charred remains of the house in Antrim where four children died yesterday morning

Boy dies in fire trying to save family

A BOY died yesterday as he tried unsuccessfully to rescue his younger brother and two sisters trapped in their blazing home in Antrim, Northern Ireland. Neighbours said that Darren Battie, aged 11, could have escaped the flames but instead he tried to reach the screaming children.

His mother, Frances Murphy, had fled seconds earlier after throwing her other daughter, Lisa, aged two, through an upstairs window.

The other children who died were named last night as Leslie Beattie, aged seven, and half-sisters Mairead, 18 months, and Francine, seven months. Police said the blaze, which began in a downstairs living room, started accidentally.

Miss Murphy was recovering last night in hospital with her daughter, who broke an arm in the fall.

Kevin Kelly, a neighbour, said that Darren could have survived by jumping. "He was a great lad and took a lot of responsibility for the other children and it was just like him to try to help them in a situation like this," he said.

"The heat was tremendous and there was black smoke everywhere. We could hear the children screaming but couldn't get in to help them."

Mairead Murphy, right, who died, and sister Lisa

Row flares on funding of research

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

AN INCREASINGLY bitter row between universities and the research councils came into the open yesterday when Sir Edward Parkes, chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, told Kenneth Clarke, education secretary, in a letter that vice-chancellors opposed the transfer of about £80 million from the budget of the Universities Funding Council to the research councils.

They believe that the transfer, ostensibly intended to clarify the way research at universities is funded, will be used by the research councils to restore finances at the expense of the universities.

The problems emerged because of government attempts to clarify dual funding, in which the UFC and the research councils contribute to university research costs. The idea was to shift research support wholly to the councils, to make the system simpler and more accountable.

Heseltine pins his faith on inner-city cash strategy

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL Heseltine yesterday challenged the leaders of big city authorities to demonstrate their ability to regenerate run-down areas by competing for £75 million of next year's inner-cities budget.

The environment secretary's *City Challenge* will pit 15 authorities against each other with only ten set to "win" a share of £350 million over five years from the government's existing inner-cities budget.

Mr Heseltine insisted he was giving back to local authorities the chance to exercise greater control over the revival of their inner cities. The councils asked to take part in the contest are Barnsley, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Liverpool, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, Salford, Sheffield, Wirral, Wolverhampton and the London boroughs of Lewisham and Tower Hamlets. In contrast to some of his predecessors, the environment secretary talked of his faith in the leaders of the mainly Labour-controlled councils after a three-month tour of inner city areas.

Heseltine: "Great cities must raise their sights"

Speaking to Tyne and Wear Development Corporation last night Mr Heseltine said: "My aim is to move more of my resources over time onto a competitive basis. Authorities who are complacent or hidebound will fail. They will have to answer to their people for that failure. I am asking the leaders of our great cities to raise their sights and look ahead to the future."

- When Mr Heseltine arrives on Teesside by helicopter today on the last leg of his regional tours since regaining office as environment minister, he will find that Middlesbrough council has already drawn up a bid for funds under his scheme (Peter Davenport writes).

One council on the list of those invited to submit programmes is Middlesbrough, and yesterday Michael Carr, its leader, said he believed the town to be an ideal candidate for the initiative. Though he expressed reservations that the funding was not new money, he put forward the outer estates of east Middlesbrough as an area worthy of benefiting from the scheme.

The area has a population of 34,000 with unemployment among men averaging 20 per cent, and up to 30 per cent in two council wards; those in work are on low incomes. A recent survey of five multi-storey blocks showed 60 per cent of households living on less than £3,000 a year.

Many residents are unskilled, and few take up the chance of re-training; health is poor, with death rates on average 25 per cent higher than national figures, and social services face a heavy caseload with an array of demands. On top of all that, there is a high incidence of burglary, car crime, vandalism and break-ins at businesses.

Mr Carr, who said yesterday the Labour-controlled council would welcome the chance to co-operate with central government on developing a strategy to improve life in the estates, said: "We want *City Challenge* to fit in with the recently announced Safer Cities project and other initiatives. Tackling the root causes of anti-social behaviour by providing employment and social acitivity, improving health standards and easing social stress will have a major impact."

Bicycles banned from Cambridge city centre

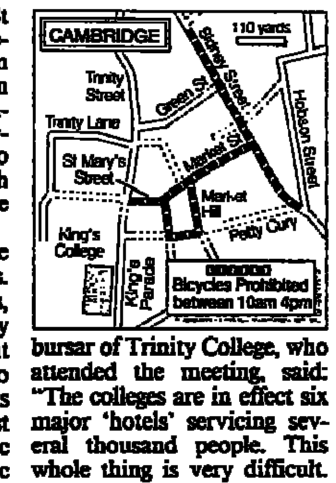
By JOHN SHAW

TRAFFIC planners in Cambridge put a spoke in an ancient tradition yesterday when an experimental ban on bicycles in part of the historic city centre was approved by a county council sub-committee.

Opponents of the scheme said that banning cycles from Cambridge was like banning horses from Newmarket, but their objections were overruled. The plan needs formal approval by the transport services committee next month, but is likely to come into force next spring.

Bicycles, the traditional form of transport for dons and students alike, will be banned from a central triangle formed by Sidney Street, Market Street, Market Hill and St Mary's Street. All motor vehicles will be banned from those streets and from St John Street, Trinity Street and Trinity Lane 10am-4pm Monday-Saturday. The aim is to confine to pedestrians much of the city centre to reduce the city's traffic problems.

The scheme has aroused the ire of both dons and students. A letter from six colleges, which was largely ignored by the committee, said that restricting vehicular access to the colleges during the day was very unreasonable and most unusual, hampered academic work, and restricted academic administration. The period of restriction was intolerable, the letter said.



Dr John Bradfield, senior bursar of Trinity College, who attended the meeting, said: "The colleges are in effect six major 'hotels' servicing several thousand people. This whole thing is very difficult. We cannot move colleges out of the city centre, like businesses can move their premises. Colleges are by their nature completely anchored to the buildings they occupy."

The scheme follows a massive public consultation exercise held earlier this year. Almost 3,000 people responded and 70 per cent supported the scheme, which is part of a much larger traffic management plan for the city. The traffic management subcommittee which approved the project comprises both county and city councillors.

Tony Carter, chairman of the sub-committee, said afterwards that he was delighted that approval was given to the proposals. "The public has shown quite clearly that it supports the concept of pedestrianisation for the city centre," he said.

"We will need to consider in more detail arrangements for seriously disabled drivers, those living in the city centre and delivery vehicles. I am sure we can resolve these issues and I'll look forward to the scheme being introduced next year."

Before the meeting three petitions with 2,300 signatures opposing the restrictions, from bus users, the students' union and a local Labour party, were handed in.

Duncan Ross, aged 23, a deputy president of the students' union, said Cambridge was one of those places where a lot of people lived in the city centre and he believed the affect of the scheme "will go a long way towards killing the city centre and making it more of a shopping mall".

Rolls withdraws dismissal threats

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

ROLLS-ROYCE, the aero-engine manufacturer, will meet union officials from across the country in Derby today after agreeing to withdraw threats to dismiss all its 34,000 employees in order to impose a six-month pay freeze.

The company's action against its own workforce had been widely criticised by lawyers, employee relations managers, Opposition politicians and union leaders.

Leaders of the MSF general technical union, who met Rolls-Royce personnel managers yesterday, said that a number of its members were ready to apply to the High Court today for injunctions restraining the company from taking the action it had outlined, in advance of a full legal suit over the case.

In the face of that, the company and the union agreed yesterday that Rolls-Royce would withdraw the letters, and the union would withdraw legal proceedings. Negotiations will now take place, probably within the next week, on the company's desire for a pay freeze. Tim Webb, MSF national officer, said: "We can now enter into serious negotiations with the company."

- Post Office managers said that staff did not support a strike call yesterday over a 7 per cent pay rise. Out of 162 counters affected, 89 had remained open. The Union of Communication Workers has called a four-day national strike by all counter staff next week.
- Marks & Spencer, which is not unionised, is to give 10,000 head office and store management staff pay increases of 8 per cent from July.
- British Rail said it hoped for new productivity improvements after the largest rail union, the RMT, accepted a revised 7.75 per cent pay offer, averting the possibility of strike action.

Ulster search for chairman

British and Irish government officials were yesterday drawing up lists of prominent people to try to find an independent person to chair the second stage of the talks on the political future of Northern Ireland (Tim Jones writes).

The choice of chairman is another potential minefield in the path of the talks, which have already been delayed by the squabble over the venue.

Naming a chairman may take time, but the first stage of the talks, dealing with administrative structures for Northern Ireland, should start on Tuesday if a chairman's terms of reference can be agreed.

Kohl praise

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, said yesterday that John Major was "the best thing that could have happened to Europe". Addressing academics after receiving an honorary doctorate from Edinburgh university, Herr Kohl said that Mr Major had rightly stressed that Britain's natural place was in the heart of Europe. "Without its active participation a united Europe cannot thrive," he said.

Libel advance

Big savings in the costs of certain libel actions will result from a Court of Appeal ruling yesterday allowing judges to decide early in the proceedings if the words complained of are capable of bearing the defamatory meaning alleged. In an an action against *New Woman* magazine by Sarah Keays, Lord Justice Neill found that the words complained of were capable of bearing a defamatory meaning.

Rubbish protest

Residents of a housing estate in Toxteth, Liverpool, trapped a refuse lorry in a one-way street with a barricade of cars yesterday, then forced a team of dustmen to clear up piles of rubbish. The residents had dumped the rubbish in protest after claiming that their bins were not being emptied. Police said that a Granada television crew that tried to film the protest had their camera and film taken.

CORRECTION

The Bismarck was incorrectly described as a "pocket" battleship in a feature on May 22 (Life and Times). The error was not made by the author of the article, James Stewart-Moore.

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Juno's commander launches space sex-equality dispute

By Nick Nuttall and Bruce Clark in Moscow

THE Soviet-British Juno space mission was embroiled in controversy last night as it emerged that the flight commander considers Britain's first astronaut unfit for the job because she is a woman.

Anatoli Artsebarsky's opinion about his colleague, Helen Sharman, was disclosed in a magazine interview but he backed up his remarks during a live transmission from the Mir space station. Commander Artsebarsky, aged 35, told the *Moskovsky Komsomolets* magazine that flying into space was "not a feminine thing" and added: "With a man, you can get through a big volume of work."

He believed that Timothy Mace, the 35-year-old reserve British astronaut, would have been a more suitable choice. "It is plain that he is more competent to function on a space flight. The trouble was that they both got excellent marks in their tests, and then he was obliged to step aside."

During a transmission from the space station yesterday, Miss Sharman, aged 27, denied that there was any rift between her and the Soviet crew. "We are getting on very well. There have no arguments so far," she said.

Commander Artsebarsky, however, seemed unrepentant about his potentially disruptive remarks. In the same transmission, he said: "I think *it is still rather early to work in* space. But I think the time will come when women can work in more comfortable conditions. For a short expedition it is acceptable. I just think it is hard work, not a woman's work."

Members of the British team criticised the Soviet cosmonaut's comments as old-fashioned chauvinism. Air Vice Marshall Peter Howard, the Juno mission's medical adviser, said: "This was a military test pilot speaking. It was rash of him to say it, but many military men are male chauvinists."

Major Mace, said by Commander Artsebarsky to have been annoyed at being passed over in favour of Miss Sharman, supported the decision to send her on the mission. "We were both equal in training. She could do as much in training as I could," he said.

The commander's wife, Natasha Artsebarsky, yesterday described her husband as something of a liberal with a great sense of sexual equality who occasionally did the washing up.

"I am a parachutist. If my husband believed that a woman's place is in the home he would not let me do that," she said.

Commander Artsebarsky's remarks surprise few observers of the Soviet space programme, in which such comments are part of a long tradition. The Soviet Union may have put Valentina Tereshkova as the first woman into space in 1963, but that may have been motivated more by one-upmanship over the Americans than a genuine desire to display sexual equality.

Sharman: "Getting on well with Soviet crew"

Senior Soviet space officials have, from time to time, publicly and privately displayed a moderation of chauvinism towards women.

Alexei Leonov, head of the cosmonaut training centre, said shortly after Juno was launched that women were "very special creatures who should be on Earth" and that it was the Juno organisers who had insisted that Helen Sharman fly.

Phone complaints increase by fifth

By Peter Victor

IN SPITE of British Telecom's £3 billion profit and reported improvements in service to its customers, 38,530 complaints and enquiries about telecom services were made to Oftel, the telephone watchdog body, last year.

BT's annual report yesterday announced significant improvements in financial performance. Pre-tax profits increased by 14.2 per cent on the previous year. Oftel's annual report, also published yesterday, said, however, that more than half the complaints — 16,147 — were disputed telephone accounts. Charges, rental and other billing matters accounted for another 5,178 complaints.

Complaints last year rose by 6,886, a fifth, on 1989's total of 31,644. BT, however, in publishing yesterday its *Quality of Service Report* for October 1990 to March 1991, said that it had improved its quality of service. The average user now enjoys five years of fault-free service, the report said, only one in 200 calls fails to get through due to faults or congestion, and 83 per cent of home installations are completed in eight days.

Sir Bryan Carsberg, the Oftel director-general, said yesterday that, although BT provided a good service, such as with itemised bills, quality of service statistics and funding for voice/text services for the deaf, he was not happy with its handling of complaints. "I have been concerned that customers find it difficult to know how to complain, that complaints are not handled efficiently and that some of BT's staff find it difficult to see the customer's point of view," he said.

The phasing-out, last year, of cheap-rate calls on certain holidays without customers being told appeared "hardly consistent with the concepts of fair dealing", Sir Bryan said.

Complaints about 0898 charges by customers who denied making the calls arose from unauthorised use in some cases, but in a number, Sir Bryan said, thorough investigations were needed, in some cases looking into the security of BT's billing system and of its network.

Sun pays libel cash to boy, 6

JONATHAN Hunt, aged six, who was branded the "worst brat in Britain" by *The Sun*, won £35,000 libel damages in the High Court yesterday to make legal history as the United Kingdom's youngest libel winner.

He shares the award with his mother Josephine, aged 36, who said after the case that her marriage had broken up because of her fight for compensation for Jonathan.

In July 1989 the newspaper reported: "Terror tot Jonathan Hunt was last night dubbed Britain's naughtiest kid, after wrecking his parent's home, cutting off his own ear and killing the cat".

Geoffrey Shaw, for the boy, said the article described various incidents of alleged gross misbehaviour by Jonathan, who was five years old at the time.

It was an exaggeration, because he did not kill the cat and did not cut off his own ear. The cat died of leukaemia and Jonathan severed the lobe of his ear when he fell against a coffee table".

But the editor and staff of *The Sun* were unaware at the time that he was registered disabled and had contracted acute neo-natal meningitis at birth, which caused behavioural problems. That was not mentioned in the article.

James Price, for News Group Newspapers, publishers of *The Sun*, said that if its editor had known of Jonathan's disability before publication the article would not have appeared. They expressed their "most sincere regret for the distress caused". An apology had appeared six days after the original article.

They denied libel and considered the settlement was a generous one.

Passions of opera spill out of the script

By Lin Jenkins

THE passions of opera amidst the gentility of Glyndebourne escaped the confines of the performance when the onstage attentions of an American tenor towards Amanda Roocroft, the soprano, proved too much for her boyfriend.

During a dress rehearsal of Trevor Nunn's production of *Così fan tutte* ("All women are like that"), at a party for the cast's guests and the catering contractors, David Ellis, a singer in the chorus, watched with increasing apprehension as Kurt Streit, who plays the jovial lover Ferrando, sang opposite Miss Roocroft, playing Fiordiligi.

The couple gazed into each other's eyes before the lingering kiss called for in the script, which, in Mr Ellis's view, appeared longer and more passionate than the director ever intended. Once off stage, he made his feelings clear and thumped Mr Streit in the face, knocking him to the ground.

The tenor was taken to the out-patients' department of the Royal Sussex County hospital in Brighton, where two stitches were put in a cut near his eye.

Events after the party last Friday were heaped with the intrigue and jealousy more normally found in the plot than backstage, as Mr Ellis was removed from the chorus and transferred to the chorus of Nunn's other Glyndebourne production, *Idomeneo*.

A spokesman for Glyndebourne said that tempers had now cooled and that the stitches had been removed before today's opening night. "David has now apologised, and that apology has been accepted. It has all blown over very quickly. It was just a little tiff in the family."

Miss Roocroft, from Coppull, near Wigan, Lancashire, who has been going out with Mr Ellis for three years, during which she has been noted as one of opera's rising stars, is said to have been unaffected by the incident.

The removal of Mr Ellis from the chorus, was, according to the spokesman, "done simply to ease tensions and to take the tension off before the opening. Amanda is fine; she is an extremely stable girl, and is shaping up to her big night tomorrow."

Trevor Nunn refused to comment on the incident, and Sir George Christie, chairman of Gyndebourne, said: "I would rather not comment on this kind of fracas.

"I don't like to talk about people getting hurt," he said. "But I will say that Kurt is a bloody good Ferrando."

Star-crossed: Amanda Roocroft and Kurt Streit in rehearsal for *Così fan tutte*

Monthly cycle link to breast surgery success

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

UP TO 600 women's lives could be saved in Britain every year if breast cancer surgery were always carried out in the second half of the menstrual cycle, research at Guy's hospital suggests.

Doctors studying the outcome of breast cancer surgery on 249 women treated at Guy's between 1975 and 1985 were surprised to discover that the timing of the operation turned out to be among the most important factors for long-term survival.

Women operated on between days three and twelve of their cycle had a 54 per cent *chance of surviving for at least* the next ten years, while those who had their operations at other times had an 84 per cent chance.

The odds against that arising by chance are very long. If the same effect proves to be true of all the pre-menopausal women with early breast cancer in Britain (about 6,000 a year) 600 lives might be saved *every year.*

Ian Fentiman, deputy director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's breast unit at Guy's, said yesterday: "This finding is potentially very important. Although we are not saying that all hospitals should adopt our policy, we suggest that they look carefully at their own results, to see if they show the same effect."

Michael Richards, a consultant in the same unit and another of the authors of the study, which appears in today's issue of *The Lancet*, said: "We have started other studies to try to establish the scientific basis for them."

The mechanism underlying the effect is assumed to have something to do with the release of different hormones at different stages of the menstrual cycle.

● Admissions to the intensive care unit of the John Radcliffe hospital at Oxford are being restricted because five patients have been affected by an infection particularly resistant to antibiotics.

Strokes halved, page 7

NHS rejects waiting list funds call

By Jill Sherman
Social Services Correspondent

DUNCAN Nichol, chief executive of the national health service, yesterday rejected demands by the Commons health select committee for extra funds to cut hospital waiting lists and to adopt a different approach to the problem.

In a report published yesterday the committee said that waiting lists should be a priority and claimed that the £119 million injected into the health service since 1987 to *cut lists "could have been* better spent".

Latest figures show that 745,000 people are on waiting lists, of whom 172,000 have had been waiting for more than a year. "The human misery and financial cost of long waiting lists are impossible to quantify," the report said, offering 20 recommendations to cut lists further. It suggested that extra money should go towards rewarding health authorities who kept lists down and to those with the worst problems.

The report said that an independent team from Birmingham university's health services management centre, headed by John Yates, had cut the worst lists by up to 40 per cent, often by improving inefficient management.

Mr Yates resigned from the project earlier this year after disagreeing with government ministers over the best way to tackle lists. He criticised the government's plan to penalise health authorities which failed to reach unrealistic targets, claiming that it would encourage districts to remove patients who were waiting for low priority operations.

The committee, however, has backed Mr Yates. It said in its report that the commitment to treat any patient should be honoured by the NHS. It suggested that the NHS should consider whether some operations, like tattoo removal, should be offered.

Mr Nichol said yesterday he was not persuaded by the need for more funds. "We have invested £35 million in this *year's waiting lists fund,* matched by £25.5 million of the region's own money. The NHS management executive is agreeing tough targets with each of the 14 regional health authorities, which will result in a further major reduction in the number of long-wait patients."

He admitted, however, that health authorities could learn from the approach adopted by Mr Yates's team.

William Waldegrave, the health secretary, said that latest provisional figures showed a 19 per cent reduction in 1990/91 in the number of patients waiting more than 12 months, and 38 per cent in the number waiting two years or more. "This is a quite unprecedented drop. We shall continue to keep up the good work," he said.

IN-PATIENTS WAITING MORE THAN TWO YEARS FOR TREATMENT — ENGLAND

	Sept 87	Sept 88	Sept 89	Sept 90
Northern	2,525	2,587	2,553	1,960
Yorkshire	4,022	4,221	3,379	2,732
Trent	5,666	3,919	3,834	3,164
East Anglian	4,004	4,160	4,202	3,036
North West Thames	4,389	7,149	5,723	4,732
North East Thames	12,261	14,422	13,096	10,007
South East Thames	8,135	8,081	9,285	7,829
South West Thames	4,529	5,142	5,385	4,242
Wessex	3,658	4,598	4,145	3,370
Oxford	3,834	3,997	3,542	3,132
South Western	5,082	4,772	4,808	4,476
West Midlands	11,585	9,075	8,495	5,942
Mersey	2,329	1,573	498	46
North Western	6,908	6,004	6,196	5,474
*SHAs	199	375	474	815
England	79,126	80,075	75,613	60,957

Source: Commons Health Committee. *Special Health Authorities

Pupils expelled

A boy and two girls were expelled from Marlborough college in Wiltshire yesterday after being arrested in a drug squad raid requested by their headmaster, David Cope. Police questioned the pupils after 25 officers with sniffer dogs found four caches of cannabis resin during a search of boarders' rooms. The three were cautioned and released.

DPP case fails

An attempt by the Director of Public Prosecutions to quash a magistrate's decision to substitute new charges for ones under which Desmond Ellis, an IRA suspect, was extradited from the Irish Republic failed in the High Court yesterday. Lord Justice Glidewell, sitting with Mr Justice Hodgson, said the application for judicial review was "not the appropriate procedure" and that the trial, at the Old Bailey on October 6, should go ahead.

Stalker award

Shoot to Kill, a television drama-documentary about the John Stalker enquiry into Northern Ireland killings criticised by politicians as terrorist propaganda, has been named as best single drama by the Royal Television Society. The programme's makers, Zenith Productions, also won the best drama series award for *Inspector Morse*. BBC television's *Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit* was voted best drama serial. The awards were presented in London last night.

Nuclear-free policy ridiculed by Tebbit

By Michael Horsnell

NORMAN Tebbit yesterday painted an imaginary picture of Russian generals calling for a list of nuclear-free zones in Britain to make sure that their SS20 missiles avoided them during a nuclear war against the West.

The former Conservative Party chairman was giving evidence at the High Court on the third day of a libel action in which he is accused of slandering a Labour council leader whom he blamed for having wasted £50,000 of ratepayers' money on a "damn-fool" anti-nuclear policy.

The money was allegedly spent on the orders of David Bookbinder, leader of Derbyshire county council, on overprinting nearly four million envelopes with the slogan. "Derbyshire County Council is a nuclear-free zone."

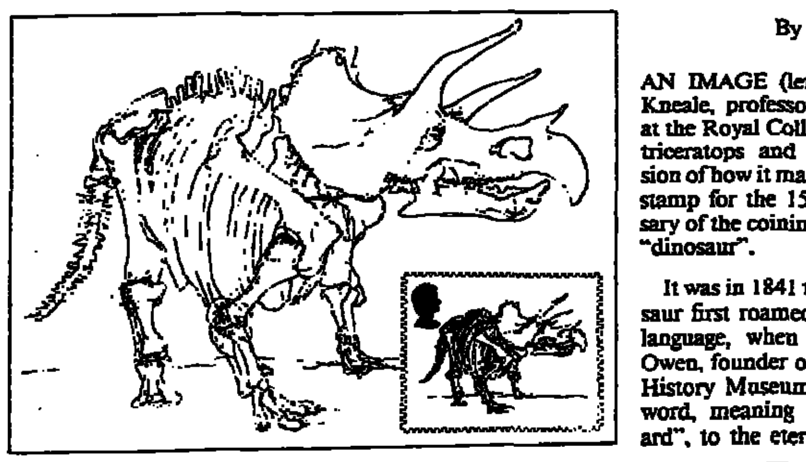
The court broke into laughter as Mr Tebbit, aged 60, ridiculed the policy and declined to withdraw the remarks he had made during a by-election campaign in Derbyshire West in May 1986.

Later a former senior printer with the council told the jury that the total cost of printing the slogan must have been more than £70,000.

Terence Shaw, aged 54, said that the envelopes took months to overprint that and six out of seven machines in the print shop were constantly used.

The case continues today.

Dinosaurs to return through letterbox



By Simon Tait, arts correspondent

AN IMAGE (left) by Bryan Kneale, professor of drawing at the Royal College of Art, of triceratops and our impression of how it may appear on a stamp for the 150th anniversary of the coining of the term "dinosaur".

It was in 1841 that the dinosaur first roamed the English language, when Sir Richard Owen, founder of the Natural History Museum, coined the word, meaning "terrible lizard", to the eternal gratitude of children, who had had to grapple with stegosaurus, protoceratops and iguanodon.

Skeletal images of those three, *plus triceratops and tyr*annosaurus, drawn by Professor Kneale are to appear on a set of stamps, at 22p, 26p, 31p, 33p and 36p, in August. Designs will be unveiled on June 5 after the Queen's approval. The Natural History Museum will show the drawings, and others considered, from June 6 to August 31.

Import ban on pigs sought as disease strikes two farms

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

GOVERNMENT veterinary officials are investigating what they fear may be the first outbreak in Britain of *an infectious pig* disease that has spread across northern Europe in recent months, killing more than 4,000 animals. Two pig farms on Humberside have been served with restriction orders prohibiting movement of animals to or from their premises.

Pig industry spokesmen said that until more was known about the disease the agriculture ministry should ban imports *of all live pigs*, consider a ban on fresh or lightly-cured pork coming from infected countries and tighten hygiene controls on vehicles visiting the Continent that might act as carriers.

The condition, called mystery reproductive syndrome or more popularly "blue ear disease", was first detected in Germany towards the end of last year and has spread to The Netherlands and Belgium. Affected sows go off their food, develop influenza-like symptoms and abort. Piglets are born dead or die before they are weaned. Ears and other extremities may show a bluish tinge, and the mortality rate among piglets can be as high as 40 per cent. After a few weeks pigs in an infected herd usually become immune to further outbreaks.

There is so far no clue to what causes the syndrome or how it spreads. The symptoms resemble those of a similarly mysterious condition that has affected American pig herds for about four years. Some experts think the disease may spread in moisture droplets in the air and is probably caused *by a* virus.

Keith Meldrum, the chief veterinary officer, said yesterday there was a distinct possibility that the illness of the Humberside pigs was the same as that found on mainland Europe.

"There is no diagnostic test," he said. "All we can do is look at all other possible causes of this condition and eliminate them one by one. If, after two or three weeks of detailed investigation, we find no other cause, then we might conclude that the condition is similar, if not identical, to that found in Europe."

Grenville Welsh, chief executive of the British Pig Association, said: "Until the government can give us a *categorical* assurance that the infection cannot be carried in fresh or lightly-cured pork, which they cannot do at the moment, imports of these products should be banned. After all, we have had to accept restrictions on our exports of beef because of BSE [bovine spongiform encephalopathy]."

Mr Welsh said there was concern that even though Britain did not import live pigs from Germany, The Netherlands or Belgium, infection might be channelled indirectly through Denmark, which has a land border with Germany and exports pigs to this country.

"We are also pressing the government to tighten controls on vehicles transporting livestock to the infected areas. There is a danger that the infection could be brought back on the lorries or the clothes of the drivers," he said.

Mr Meldrum said there was no evidence of any kind that MRS could be carried in pigmeat or pose a risk to humans who ate it, and the government had no plans to restrict imports. The ministry last night declined to identify the two farms. They are understood to have 200 sows each, reared in intensive indoor conditions.

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Water firm agrees to pay £100,000 for effluent leak

By PETER VICTOR

THAMES Water Utilities was fined £1,000 yesterday and agreed to pay £100,000 compensation after it admitted, during a prosecution brought by the National Rivers Authority, having polluted a two-mile stretch of the river Kennet on the Wiltshire-Berkshire border.

Thames Water was also fined £1,000 with £225 costs after it admitted that a sewage treatment works pump spilled diesel oil into the upper reaches of the river, a trout fishing spot.

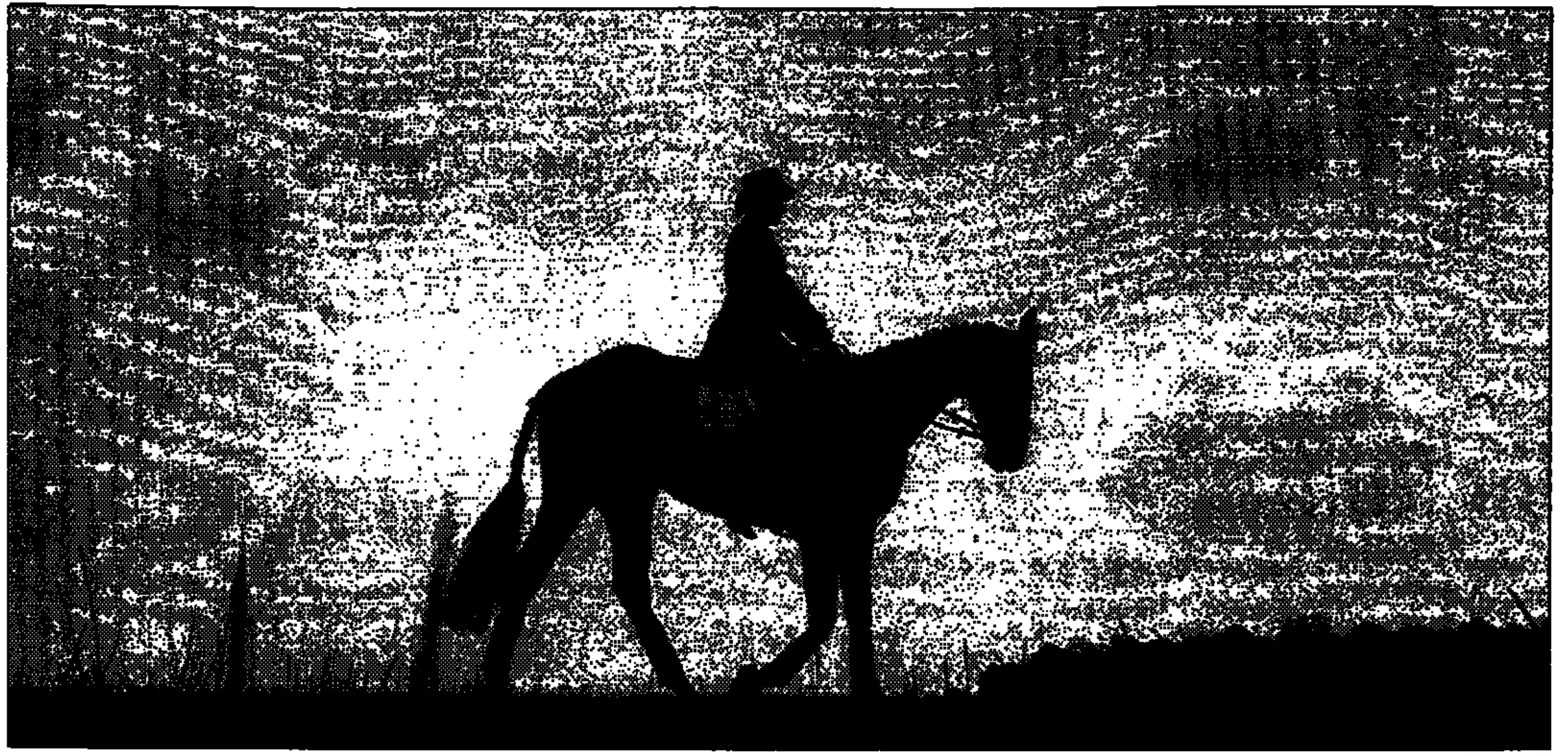
The leak, said to have been caused by an employee's mistake, killed hundreds of trout, damaged wildlife and led to an operation by volunteers to rescue oil-covered ducks and swans from a stretch of the river upstream of Ramsbury Manor estate, near Marlborough, owned by Harry Hyams, a property developer.

The company pleaded guilty at Marlborough magistrates' court to discharging trade effluent into controlled water last year. Thames Water undertook to pay £6,000 to £7,000 to the authority for the clean-up, and agreed to pay a further £100,000 in compensation to third parties affected by the leak, including Gale and Ainsley's Church Trout Farm.

Susan Tysoe, for the prosecution, said that on the morning of November 13 the sewage treatment works in Elcot Lane, Marlborough, received reports of a strong smell of oil and a red film on the Kennet. "Five thousand litres of oil was lost from the tank," she said. More than 350 fish died at the trout farm.

Peter Taylor, for Thames Water, said that the operator either did not press a switch or pressed it ineffectually and oil from the tank continued to flow over the top.

JULIAN HERBERT



Sky rider: Danielle Brown, of Blandford, Dorset, on Helwell Triumph preparing yesterday for the first day of the annual Windsor horse trials

Industry takes up business with the greens

By CRAIG SETON

BIG business was as much in evidence at the Green Show yesterday as dedicated conservationists and groups.

The green movement has progressed so fast that Rover and Saab cars, Tesco, British Coal Opencast, Dunlop, Powergen and British Nuclear Fuels all took large stands at the show, proclaiming their contribution to the environment, alongside bodies concerned with saving whales and dolphins, the promotion of breastfeeding, meditation and vegetarianism and the case against vivisection.

When the first national Green Show was held at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC), Birmingham, last year, anti-nuclear demonstrators dumped what they said was contaminated sludge on the British Nuclear Fuels (BNFL) stand as a protest at its presence.

At the NEC yesterday, BNFL said there was a much more congenial mood and no signs of hostility. However, the organisers said that as many as 40 "green" companies that took part in last year's show had refused to come back because the nuclear company had a stand this year.

One of the largest of the 230 exhibitors at the five-day show is Rover cars, keen to explain its "whole life" approach to the environment through cars equipped with catalytic converters, and new engines made with large quantities of recycled aluminium.

Tim Andrews, a volunteer on a stand occupied by *Green Line* magazine, an ecology publication started in 1982, said that without the presence of large companies, the Green Show would probably be only a fringe affair for dedicated environmentalists. He said: "If the public come here thinking it is a truly green show, they will be disappointed. There are small green fairs held in town halls all the time. That is where the real green people are."

The show is organised by Green Shows and Conferences, a Birmingham-based company.

Gulf war affects holiday bookings

The Gulf war has changed British holiday patterns and cut the tourist income of eastern Mediterranean countries (Harvey Elliott writes).

Bookings to Turkey, Morocco and Yugoslavia are half what they were last year, while Tunisia, Cyprus and Italy are down by a quarter, according to figures compiled by 18 tour operators. Portugal, on the Atlantic coast, has a quarter more bookings.

Overall, tour operators expect to sell 7 per cent fewer package holidays this year.

GP's fortune

Winifred Perry, aged 89, of Downs Park West, who died in February, has left the bulk of her fortune of £1,508,250 to her GP, Dr Sadrudin Maken. He said he had been looking after her for 20 years, cooking and shopping for her.

Girl threatened

Armed raiders poured petrol over the bed of a jeweller's 12-year-old daughter and threatened to light it to try to force him to hand over the keys to his shop in Aston, Birmingham. But the men fled after the jeweller tricked them by saying he had to get the keys from his father's house and then slammed the door on them.

Opening time

Orders banning the B&Q do-it-yourself stores from Sunday trading in Canterbury, Watford and Havering, London, were lifted yesterday.

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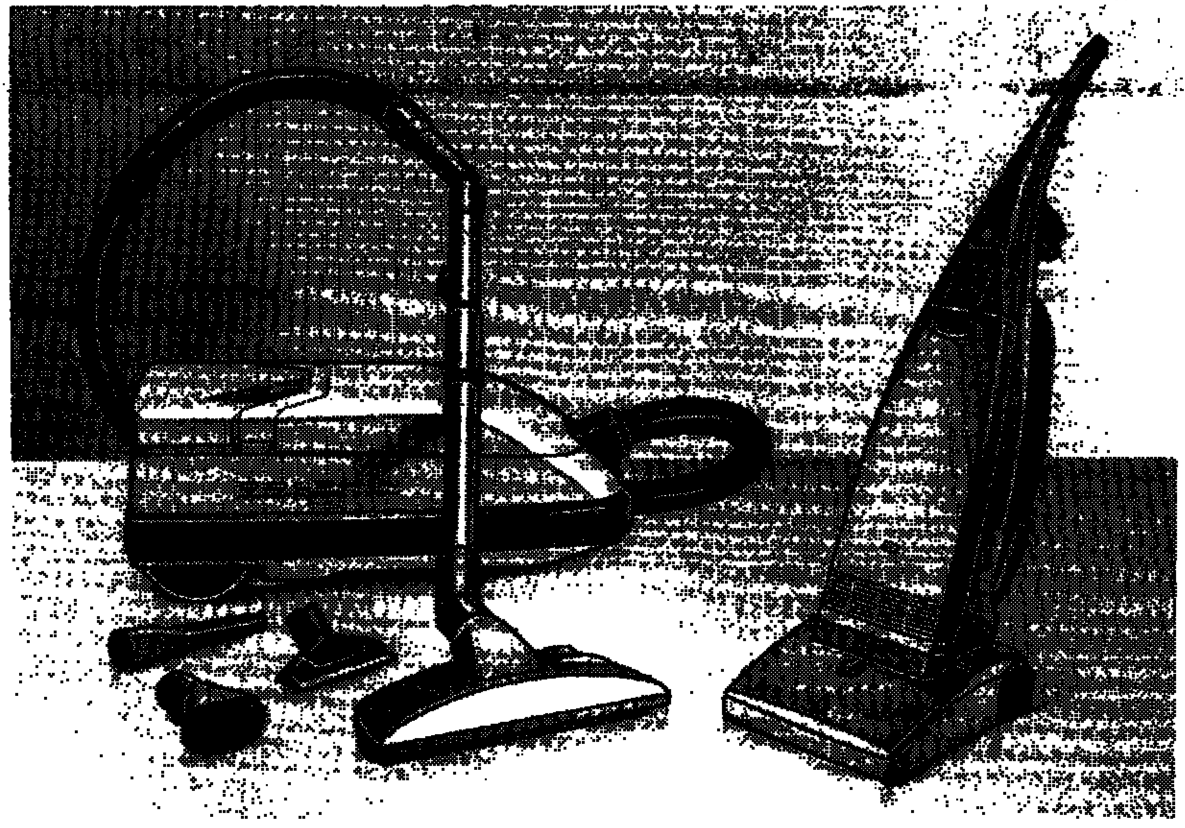

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£211m hi-tech ship has no buyer, role or apparent future

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

HMS Challenger, one of the Royal Navy's most expensive ships, which came into service in 1984 at a cost of about £211 million, is tied up in Portsmouth with no crew, no role and no apparent future.

The 7,200-tonne seabed operations vessel, equipped with the latest underwater sensor systems, has been waiting for a buyer since the defence ministry decided to sell her as part of its efforts to save £600 million from last year's budget.

Tied up in Portsmouth for the last four months, the ship is threatening to become an embarrassing reminder of an era of less stringent budget controls. The ship should have a complement of about 180 but navy sources said that there was now just a skeleton crew on board.

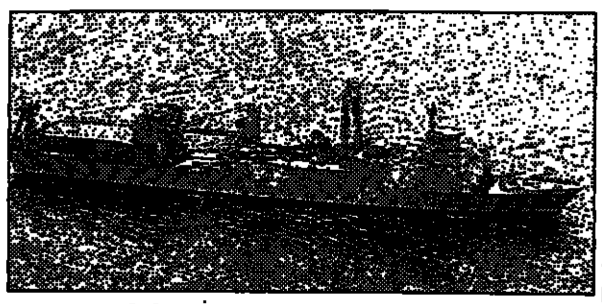
The Challenger has been used twice only since 1984, to recover toxic chemicals from the MV Perintis off Guernsey and to salvage a Harrier jet lost from HMS Ark Royal in Lyme Bay.

The ministry's failure to sell the vessel is the latest in a series of blows for the Challenger, which was hailed as the world's most advanced diving ship when she came into service. She was ordered in September 1979, launched in May 1981 and should have joined the fleet in 1983. Just before the vessel was due to be completed, faulty wiring was discovered throughout the ship, contributing to a 20-month delay.

Two years later, the ship's deep-diving system had to be replaced in a multi-million pound, ten-month refit after it was claimed that the specialist diving equipment was up to 10 years out of date when the vessel was completed. The defence ministry conceded in 1986 that the ship's original price of £71 million would rise sharply because of the improvements needed. The vessel is now regarded by some as a disastrous example of defence procurement.

The Challenger is equipped to help to rescue a crippled submarine on the seabed, being able to hold an exact position, even in heavy seas. Since being tied up in Portsmouth, however, she has not been kept in running order and would be unable to launch an emergency rescue should a submarine accident occur.

Some navy sources believe that the Challenger could be used for oceanographic research, but as yet no research institution has shown interest.



HMS Challenger, facing an uncertain future

MPs criticise delays in defence deliveries

By OUR DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

SEVERAL large defence procurement programmes, already over schedule, have been hit by further delays, according to a report from the Commons defence committee published yesterday.

A light anti-tank weapon, LAW 80, entered service in 1988, five years late. But modifications needed after difficulties during training have delayed deliveries a further seven months.

The Tucano training aircraft programme for the RAF is also behind schedule. At the end of December Shorts, the Belfast company sold to Bombardier of Canada two years ago, had delivered only 51 aircraft instead of 114.

MPs also reported new delays in the command system for the Royal Navy's Type 23 frigate, of which the first five are now expected to be handed over without an automatic command and control system.

☐ Sir David Plastow, chairman of Vickers Defence Systems, which is competing to supply tanks to replace the army's Chieftains, has written to the prime minister appealing for a decision.

He feels the government has no reason to delay, since all documents have been available for some time. Papers detailing recommendations have yet to be passed to relevant ministers.

Further Examination of Defence Procurement Projects (Commons defence committee, Stationery Office; £8.90)

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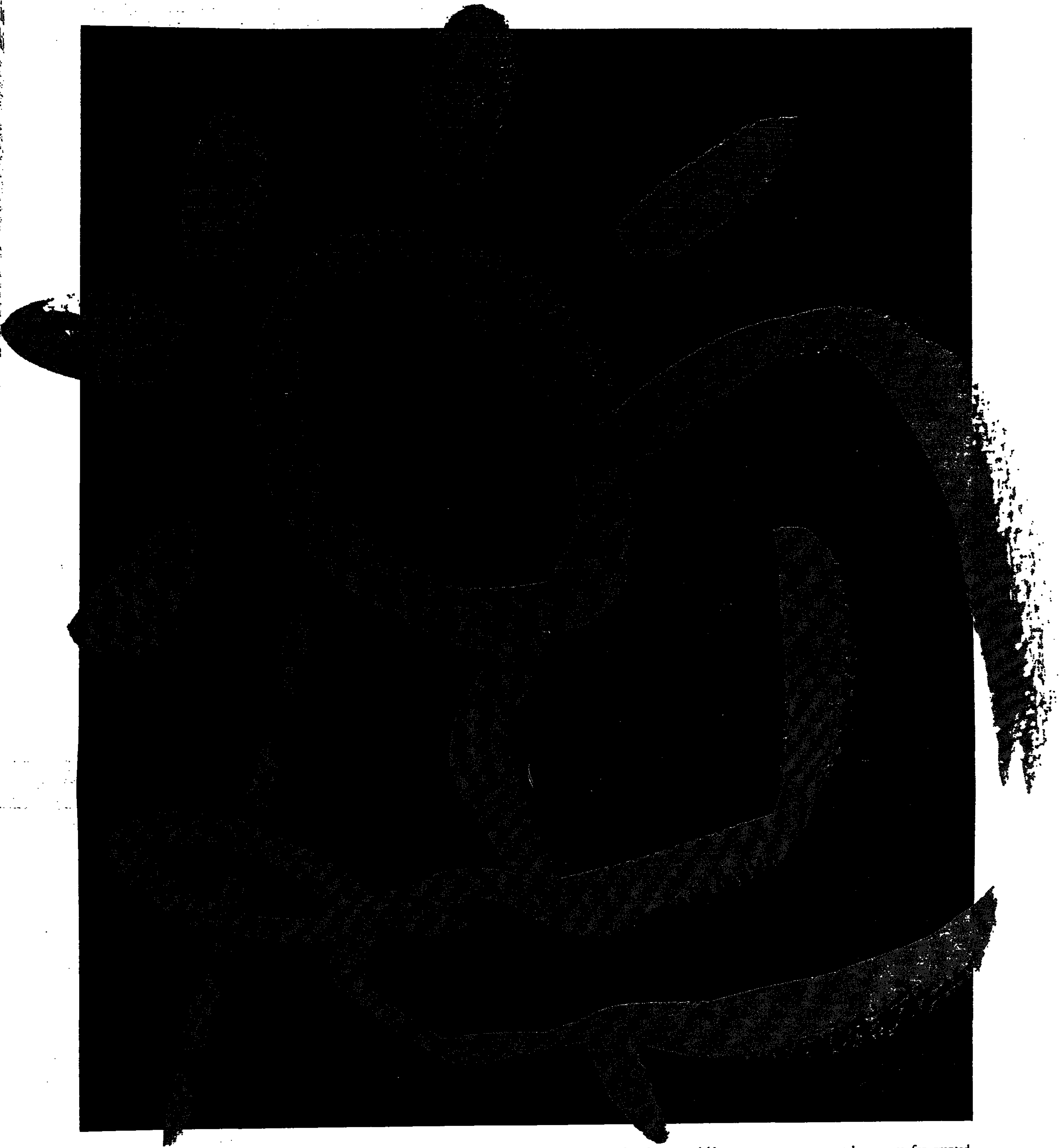

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These results are unaudited. *Comparative figures for the corresponding 1990 period.
The contents of this advertisement, for which the Directors of The British Petroleum Company p.l.c. are responsible, have been approved for the purposes of Section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986 by Ernst & Young, a firm authorised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales to carry on investment business. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future.

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QUATTRO 4WD

Acceleration and handling are obviously an important part of this philosophy so it was pleasing to hear the respected magazine 'Auto Motor und Sport' say that 'the Audi actually lets itself be driven nimbly and precisely like a small car. At the same time, it demonstrates excellent road holding and therefore ensures completely relaxed and unequalled driving'.

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PROCON-TEN

The new, strengthened side panels and the Procon-Ten safety system were described by 'Autozeitung' as giving the Audi 100 2.3E, 'the advantage in safety terms' over the BMW 520i and the Mercedes 230E.

But it doesn't say in any manual (and certainly not in the Audi handbook) that a safe car has to be a boring car.

'Auto Motor und Sport' described driving the 2.8E between 2,000 and 4,000 revs as a 'genuine pleasure' compared to the BMW 525i and the Mercedes 260E.

Concluding that the Audi 'surpassed the competitors in terms of responsiveness and performance characteristics'.

The respective overall conclusions of these respected gentlemen therefore came as little surprise.

'Auto Motor und Sport' placed the Audi 100 2.8E top in 4 out of 5 categories tested against the BMW 525i and the Mercedes 260E, saying that 'Audi has succeeded with its new 6-cylinder engine is not just drawing level with the competition but moving ahead of it'.

4/5/6 CYLINDERS

The Test Director of 'Autobild' summed up by saying that the new Audi 100 was, in his opinion, 'a real alternative to the BMW and Mercedes'.

While 'Autozeitung' simply stated that the Audi 100 2.3E 'in comparability tests takes first place' over the BMW 520i and the Mercedes 230E.

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Operation halves strokes among high-risk patients

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE largest trial of a surgical technique ever carried out has shown that an operation to relieve narrowing of arteries in the neck can halve the risk of fatal or disabling strokes in high-risk patients.

The ten-year study involving 14 European countries has shown that the operation, costing £2,000, can avoid five major and five less serious strokes for every 100 high-risk patients treated. In patients where the chances of a stroke are low, however, the risks of the operation are greater than those of having a stroke, so it is not justified.

About 100,000 people a year in Britain have a stroke, making it the third most common cause of death and the most common cause of disability. Patients who survive strokes often lose the ability to move one side of their body and frequently suffer speech problems. Even after apparent recovery, there is an increased risk of another stroke within a few years.

About 80 per cent of strokes are caused by blood clots blocking the arteries supplying blood to the brain, and the commonest point of blockage is in the carotid artery running up the neck behind the angle of the jaw.

The blockage can be cleared by a procedure known as carotid endarectomy, but it is a risky operation. In Britain, about one in 20 of the operations actually causes fatal or disabling strokes. As a result, it has never been clear whether the benefits of the operation outweighed its risks. Many more such operations have been carried out in the US — 100,000 a year against only 1,500 in Britain — but whether the procedure was really justified had not been established.

With support from the Medical Research Council, the European Carotid Surgery Trial was launched in 1981. The results, published today in *The Lancet*, show that the surgery is justified, but only in patients known to be at high risk of stroke.

Charles Warlow, professor of medical neurology at the University of Edinburgh and chairman of the group responsible for the study, says: "About 10,000 Britons present each year with a minor stroke-like event and severe neck artery narrowing. The results of this study show that routine surgery on these people could prevent about 500 fatal or disabling strokes, plus another 500 non-disabling strokes."

Trials of surgical procedures are unusual, because there is no obvious source of finance. Drug trials are generally financed by the pharmaceutical companies, who have an interest in their outcome, but finding the money to finance a surgery trial is more difficult. Without the support of the MRC, the stroke trial could not have been conducted.

Fourteen countries were involved in the trial, and 80 different medical centres collaborated. Each of the 2,500 patients was either sent for immediate surgery, or for alternative treatments including aspirin to reduce the danger of clotting, anti-hypertensive drugs, and advice to stop smoking and take more exercise. The progress of each patient was then followed, and results compared.

The surgical procedure, which involves widening the arteries in the neck and allowing the blood to flow more freely, was shown to be a clear benefit only to patients classified as being at high risk of a stroke, where the arteries were narrowed by more than 70 per cent. In the least serious cases, where narrowing was less than 30 per cent, the risk of the operation was greater than that of having a stroke, and for the intermediate group the value of surgery remains equivocal. For this reason, the trial is continuing to recruit patients to try to establish more clearly the balance between risks and benefits.

● One in two Welsh people dies of heart disease, an illness that affects 112,000 people in the principality and kills 16,000 every year.

A new prevention strategy outlined by the Welsh Office yesterday aims at reducing that total by a third by the year 2002. The £160 million-a-year programme will focus on prevention and cure, promoting healthier lifestyles, and thoroughly assessing patients believed to be at risk.

Toll plan for city's private-sector road

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

DRIVERS using the proposed western orbital motorway around Birmingham face paying tolls for much of their journey after a decision yesterday by Malcolm Rifkind, transport secretary, to transfer control from the public to the private sector.

The decision will create the first toll road in Britain since the demise of the turnpikes in the 19th century.

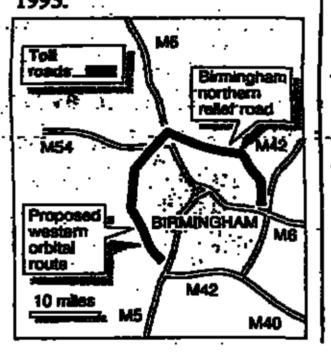
The western orbital route will run from the M5 near Kidderminster to the M54 north of Wolverhampton, where it will link with the Birmingham northern relief road between the M6 and the M42, which is also to be built by the private sector.

Mr Rifkind said that his decision followed a positive response from the private sector companies wishing to build the road. It is understood, however, that the private sector had been lobbying for the scheme to be transferred out of the public sector road building programme to improve the viability of the northern relief road.

Companies interested in building the western orbital route will soon be asked to submit pre-qualifying bids. Both projects were orginally part of the £17 billion public sector road building programme, and the decision to transfer the schemes to the private sector is part of the government's commitment to recruit private-sector capital to help to provide new transport infrastructure, as outlined in its 1989 green paper.

Richard Diment, deputy director of the British Roads Federation, said that although he welcomed the private sector initiative it had failed to speed the planning process.

"Work should have begun on the Birmingham project in 1991," he said. "Now it looks like work will not begin until 1993."


Toll roads
M6
Birmingham northern relief road
M54
M42
Proposed western orbital route
BIRMINGHAM
M6
M42
10 miles
M5
M40

PETER TREVNOR

Thames discovery: Julien Ayre, a Museum of London archaeologist, studying the Dark Ages skeleton

Thames body has signs of surgery

By NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE mysterious Dark Age burial found by archaeologists on Wednesday on the ancient Thames foreshore has yielded a fresh surprise. Pathological scrutiny of the body has disclosed a circular hole cut in the side of the skull, apparently as surgery.

The technique, known as trepanning, is believed to have been used to treat epilepsy, migraine and other severe headaches, or to cure madness and possession by evil spirits; physical symptoms and the supposed psychological affliction may well have occurred together.

Trepanation was one of the most successful operations in the ancient world. Over a thousand trepanned skulls are known, and more than half exhibit healed bone, showing that the patient had survived surgery for at least several months.

Sometimes, trepanation has been incorrectly diagnosed. A skull bearing double holes that was exhibited at the Brighton Museum was found on examination to represent a medical condition, biparietal thinning.

Scrutiny of the new discovery, made at Bull Wharf, near Southwark Bridge, has not yet indicated whether trepanation was successful, or whether it led to the death of the individual, identified as adult. Study of the hole, which may have been made by drilling, by cutting with a blade or by scraping away bone, will show whether healing had begun. The body was sandwiched between layers of bark.

New chief constable qualified as barrister

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Williams, assistant chief constable of Surrey, was yesterday appointed chief constable of the force in succession to Brian Hayes, who has joined the Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Mr Williams, aged 50, a respected if little-known policeman, has distinguished himself in senior staff and operational posts. He became a contender for a chief constable's post when, in 1984, after serving 26 years in the Metropolitan police, he moved to Hertfordshire as assistant chief constable. The key breakthrough in his career, however, had come in 1972, when he was awarded a police scholarship to read law at University College London. He graduated in 1977 and was later was called to the Bar.

Mr Williams, who is noted for being a good communicator in spite of an undemonstrative manner, said yesterday that police and public needed to form a partnership to tackle crime. "The rise in crime needs constant attention," he said.

No room for 'also rans' at top, police watchdog says

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SIR John Woodcock, chief inspector of constabulary, yesterday issued a warning to senior police commanders that there can be no room for "also-rans" at the top of the police service. Policing was too important to be left in any but capable hands.

Sir John, in his report for 1990, told chief constables and other top ranks: "Make no mistake, those forces with open-minded, intelligent, fair, down-to-earth leaders who are prepared to learn from mistakes and positively encourage criticism will succeed: the others sadly will not."

Sir John said the government had to provide adequate funding for modern technology. "Any arbitrary cost-cutting here will be the falsest of economies." Reviewing the past year Sir John recognised there was a "demonstrable if slight decline in confidence across all sections of the community, most disconcertingly among those who have had direct contact with the police." The crime survey showed 60 per cent of the population has contact with the police each year and dissatisfaction came from a lack of police effort, the inability of officers to solve problems or answer questions, and a lack of courtesy.

Sir John said the paradox was that while the police were becoming more effective, police esteem, although still high, appeared to have slipped. All officers had to work harder to improve courtesy, fairness and care.

Sir John supported the growing number of chief constables casting doubt on recorded crime figures as a measure of police effectiveness. He said crime was affected by many factors. Arrests and crimes cleared up by the investigation work of officers were a far more significant test of the police battle against lawlessness. The rise in crime had stretched the police but in the first nine months of last year the number of detections made through investigations rose by 17 per cent.

He said fear was fuelled by the number of recorded offences, which reached 4.5 million last year, but most offences were crimes against property and not violent offences. Sir John emphasised the need for the police to show more care towards victims. He said changes in the police national computer system must include the ability for forces to exchange information.

☐ The future of policing should be debated by a royal commission and not left to divisive party politics, Michael Bennett, chairman of the Metropolitan Police branch of the Police Federation, told its annual conference in Eastbourne yesterday. The conference voted overwhelmingly to initiate a campaign to establish a fresh royal commission on the police.

Report of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary for 1990 (Stationery Office; £11.20)

Recession puts end to 157-year tradition of gunmaking

By CRAIG SETON

THE recession has put paid to W & C Scott, one of the best-known names in British gunmaking, whose hand-crafted, double-barrelled shotguns have been used by members of the aristocracy and other sportsmen for more than a century and a half to bring down pheasant in fields and grouse on moors.

The Birmingham company was formed by the brothers William and Charles Scott in the city's once-booming gunsmiths' quarter 157 years ago and became a pillar of the industry, supplying shotguns made to order and parts for some of the most famous names in gunmaking. The firm was bought six years ago by Holland and Holland, another pre-eminent British gunmaker, which has found the recession cutting deep into what is still regarded as a luxury trade in hand-crafted, engraved shotguns costing up to £17,000. Orders for new guns from W & C Scott have fallen sharply and as a result it will close in September.

The Birmingham company always spurned mass production in favour of the hand-made product, even when competition intensified as much cheaper, machine-made imports began flooding into the country. Production of a standard W & C Scott double-barrelled shotgun, costing about £4,500, takes at least 300 man hours to complete.

The firm's closure will mean the loss of 26 jobs in the Witton area of Birmingham, most of them of craftsmen, although there are hopes that the company's business in repairs, servicing and spare parts will survive in some form.

The company was amalgamated with the gunmaker Webley in 1896 to make shotguns, handguns and air weapons and remained in Birmingham's gun quarter until after the second world war. Eleven years ago, the two went their separate ways when the shotgun side of the business was hived off under the old name of W & C Scott, and Webley Scott concentrated on airguns.

Patrick Whatley, managing director of W & C Scott, said that peak production of up to 200 shotguns a year had declined markedly in recent years. He added: "Even people with money tend to hang on to it when there is a recession. The firm is world-renowned and it is very sad that we have to close. It is a bit of history that is going."

Nigel Brown, secretary of the Gun Trade Association, said that the closure meant that a trade landmark was being lost. "It has immense importance historically because it was one of the biggest and best trade suppliers," he said. "It is extremely sad and will leave a nasty void."

The firm's shotguns were still used in the "highest circles", although the majority of new guns sold in Britain were imported, from countries that included Italy, Spain, Belgium and the United States.

Mr Brown added: "The British shotgun industry is still contracting. It has concentrated on high-quality items and with one or two exceptions has never managed to get itself going to feed the mass market. The English gun as such, properly made to craft standards, is priced out of the average market."

A POLAR BEAR ON TOP OF THE WORLD AFTER A REFRESHING Gordon's & Tonic.

Waldegrave steps up NHS counter-attack with jobs assurance

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL Health Service trusts are unlikely to lead to cuts in total staffing levels, William Waldegrave said yesterday as he intensified his efforts to blunt the Labour assault on self-governing hospitals.

In his most optimistic assessment so far, the health secretary suggested that evidence submitted to the Commons all-party health select committee on Wednesday was out of date and that the trusts would make little overall difference to job prospects.

"It is more likely that there will be about as many jobs created as lost in the 57 first-wave trusts", Mr Waldegrave said. He also underlined his commitment to the local management of hospitals by saying that he had no intention of putting an upper limit on the number of second-wave trusts.

The latest phase of the health secretary's counter-offensive came as John MacGregor, the leader of the Commons, claimed that Labour was retreating from its "scare story" that trust hospitals had opted out of the NHS.

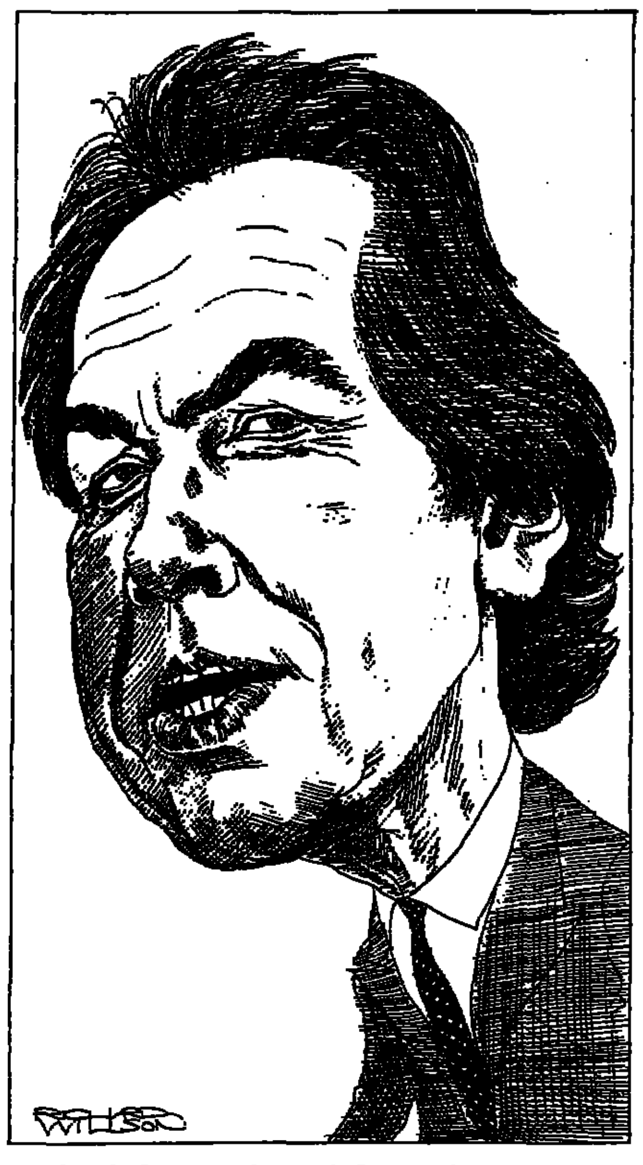
Mr MacGregor said that Jack Cunningham, his Opposition counterpart, had conceded that the allegation was groundless by referring to "NHS trusts" when complaining that ministers were refusing to answer parliamentary questions about the self-governing hospitals. Mr MacGregor said that where policy matters were involved, ministers would respond to questions about trusts. Local management would be for trust chairmen to handle.

Mr MacGregor's claims, made in a letter to Dr Cunningham, were a further sign that, at the risk of labouring the point, ministers will not let the argument over the status of trust hospitals rest until they believe they have defused it as a potential election issue.

Mr Waldegrave's latest remarks update his prediction last week that the trusts threaten the jobs of only 200 staff among the 100,000 people working in the hospitals and clinics pioneering the health service management shake-up.

The outcry over the impact of the reforms erupted at the end of last month when the Guy's and Lewisham trust in south London announced that it would have to make 600 staff redundant to head off a projected £6.8 million deficit. Since then the extent of the threat has been gradually scaled down. Sir Philip Harris, the trust chairman, softened the blow again on Wednesday when he told the health committee that, after allowing for natural wastage, a maximum of 130 redundancies would be required in south London.

Labour made clear, however, that it would press ahead with its claims that trusts were jeopardising services to patients and the jobs of NHS staff. Robin Cook, the Opposition's chief health spokesman, said that after the select committee hearing he had little confidence in the employment prospects of staff working for the new trusts. "It is clear", he said, "that the trusts have not got proper business plans."



Cunningham: mention of NHS trusts pleases Tories

Labour pledges extra staff to collect 'lost' tax

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR promised yesterday to cut waste in the social security system by employing more staff to collect national insurance payments from the self-employed and child maintenance payments from absent parents.

Michael Meacher, the shadow social security secretary, accused the Conservatives of not caring less when it came to collecting public revenue. In a speech in his constituency, Oldham West, Mr Meacher, citing a social security department efficiency study, said that at least £250 million a year was lost because of failure to collect national insurance contributions from the self-employed, and that in 1988 the department collected maintenance payments from less than a quarter of absent parents.

The department, he said, had reduced its work on collecting from the self-employed to save £20 million in staff costs and there had been similar cuts in the number of employees involved in collecting maintenance payments. According to the National Audit Office, every £10,000 saved in staffing cost £82,000 in the amount of revenue forgone.

Mr Meacher's office said that, although Labour was not committed to restoring staff levels to what they were, the employment of more people on collection would clearly be cost-effective.

Mr Meacher said that he did not know how the Conservatives had the gall to suggest that the Labour party was irresponsbile on public spending when it was wasting money in the social security system. "When the Tories are after some ideological objective, then it is public money no object. When it comes to collecting public revenue, they could not care less. All they mean by value for money is spending less on things they do not like."

In the light of their dismal record, Labour would take no lectures from the Tories on public spending. "We will replace Tory chaos and narrow ideology with sound administration of policies which meet real need."

Mr Meacher listed other areas of alleged waste. About £9.3 billion had been spent from the national insurance fund, he said, in rebates and incentives to persuade people to opt out of the state earnings-related pension scheme into private pensions and £1.8 billion was spent from general taxation for benefits that the national insurance fund could not pay for because of the Serps opt-out "bribe". That was equivalent to 1.5p on the basic rate of income tax.

He added that the social fund, introduced to target help on the very needy, spent 31 per cent of its expenditure on administration.

Peers left in dark

A BRIEF debate in the House of Lords last night left peers with no clear idea of what to expect from Britain's first national commercial radio station.

Earl Ferrers, Home Office minister, offered no precise definition of the "non-pop" music that the station will broadcast, or even of the pop music it must, for the most part, avoid. "It is rather like an elephant. You recognise it when you see it."

If the question went to court, then a judge would have to make the decision. The guidance in the act had never been intended as an exclusive definition.

Lord Thomson of Monifieth, former chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority, said that, in inviting applications for the licence for the new station, the radio authority had adopted a narrow and mechanistic interpretation of the new broadcasting act.

Military kick the smoking habit

Attempts by the defence ministry to cut smoking among service people seem to be succeeding. A survey has shown that fewer than forty in a hundred service people now smoke cigarettes and fewer than four in a hundred smoke cigars and pipes, according to a written answer from Archie Hamilton, the armed forces minister.

The ministry, he said in another reply, had given widespread publicity to the harmful effects of smoking and it was policy to discourage smoking on ministry premises. Blue Liners, the cheap cigarettes sold to sailors, have become progressively dearer over the past few years, and the concession will end at the end of the year.

Women join campaign

An all-party group of women MPs has asked editors of women's magazines to stop accepting cigarette advertisements and to stop making smoking appear glamorous in their publications. The move follows wide support for a Commons motion tabled by Dame Janet Fookes (C) and backed by Joan Lestor (Lab), Rosie Barnes (Ind SD) and Ray Michie (Lib Dem) calling for an advertising ban.

Channel link

British Rail expects to spend about £700 million on infrastructure works connected with passenger and freight services to the Channel tunnel. In a Commons answer, Roger Freeman, public transport minister, said that £250 million would go on building track and upgrading lines and £142 million on the Waterloo terminal.

M40 benefits

Traffic flows on the southern section of the M1 have fallen by between 4,000 and 19,000 vehicles each weekday since the M40 London to Birmingham motorway was completed, Christopher Chope, roads and traffic minister, said in a written reply.

Houses rise

Both Houses of Parliament rose for the spring recess yesterday and will return on June 3.

Nobel chemist hits at science support

By JOHN WINDER

A NOBEL prizewinning chemist used his maiden speech in the House of Lords yesterday to criticise the level of public support for science.

Lord Porter of Luddenham said that public financial support for scientific research seemed to come not only sparingly but grudgingly, with all sorts of strings attached. He and other scientists trying to unravel the fundamental process of photo-synthesis had wasted two years filing unsuccessful applications for a laser essential to their research. They had had to borrow equipment.

Lord Porter, past president of the Royal Society, and a member of the Lords committee on science and technology, said that the research that he and nine young research fellows at Imperial College were carrying out was in an important and rapidly moving area.

Four years ago they had applied to the Science and Engineering Research Council for a laser. Their applications had been rejected every year since. "We have had to use old equipment, spending an inordinate amount of time filing applications and borrowing equipment."

There was nothing unusual in their situation which was about par for the course. The £25 million that remained this year to the research council to fund all the applications for research grants was less than 6 per cent of what it received from the government. Britain should retain the leading place it held in the development of science.

Lady Blatch: £920m was spent on science last year

The debate had been opened by Lord Flowers and Lord Carver, presenting reports of select committees on scientific research, over which they presided.

Lord Flowers said that, having had a squeeze for many years on money available for science research, there was now no fat left in the system to meet shortages. The Treasury had "pulled a fast one" in providing less money than research councils had been led to expect. An extra £12 million should be provided this financial year.

Lord Carver said that there was a grey zone of considerable importance that was not well financed by government or industry.

Lord Walton of Detchant, a leading figure in the medical world, said that there was irrefutable evidence that research spending had often had to be cut to preserve teaching and patient care.

Lady Blatch, replying for the government, said that the science budget had risen from £329 million in 1979 to £920 million last year.

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East Germany turned child-snatcher to torment dissidents

Margot Honecker: barred parents for life

Files discovered in a Berlin cellar prove that the former communist regime forcibly removed the children of citizens who protested against its system, and gave them for permanent adoption to couples vetted and officially approved by the state. Ian Murray reports

YOUNG East German dissidents had their children confiscated and handed over for adoption to families approved by the old communist regime, according to files discovered in the cellar of local council offices in Berlin.

"The state acted as a kidnapper," Thomas Krüger, the city's youth senator, said yesterday, when he appealed to parents who had lost their children to come forward and reclaim them. Files with details of eight cases were found in the cellar, wrapped in newspapers dated April 27, 1990, a month after the communists were voted out of office. Herr Krüger has now called for a search of records in other offices to find if there is evidence of other cases.

The files show that at least three of the children were forcibly adopted against their parents' will, while the others were sent to orphanages. One couple, expelled to the West in 1971, had a year-old baby girl and two boys, aged six and seven, taken away.

A married couple held as political prisoners, whose freedom was bought by West Germany in 1974, were forced to leave their two children behind for adoption by a communist family. A young mother, held for political reasons in a psychiatric hospital, wrote in vain to try to prevent her child being taken.

The files show that in one case a child was handed over to relatives, but that in others children were given to adoptive parents who lived in a different area and who were never told about the background. The East German regime always denied that it forcibly adopted children of dissidents. In 1975 a correspondent of *Der Spiegel* was expelled after the magazine published an article giving details of such cases.

But under East German law, children of those caught trying to escape from the country or found guilty of military espionage were confiscated and the state became their guardian. On the instructions of Margot Honecker, education minister and wife of the communist leader, Erich, the parents were never permitted to see their children again.

Erich Mielke, the sick and senile old man who headed East Germany's secret police for most of its existence, has been charged with implementing the shoot-to-kill policy under which nearly 200 people died as they tried to escape. He was handed the new charges in the West Berlin prison hospital, where he is awaiting trial for offences including illicit telephone tapping and electoral fraud.

The evidence against the 82-year-old former politburo member is listed on a 250-page charge sheet. Much of it has been found in the reams of Stasi documents, meticulously filed down the years on his instructions. The files can also be used in the trials of Willi Stoph, the former East German prime minister, and Heinz Kessler, the defence minister, charged this week with involvement in the shoot-to-kill policy. Around 30 former Stasi leaders are also under investigation by a special unit set up to disband the secret "state within the state". With 85,000 officials on its full-time pay roll, Herr Mielke ensured that the Stasi had the resources to complete a file on every prominent and professional person. This has meant that files exist on most of the new political leaders in eastern Germany, making them vulnerable to accusations that they collaborated with the communist regime. Lothar de Maizière, the last East German prime minister, was forced to resign from the federal cabinet after his file was discovered.

Deciding what to do with all the Stasi dossiers, containing intimate details of the lives of millions of east Germans, is proving one of the more difficult and contentious issues of unification. Only after months of argument have the political parties agreed that individuals must be allowed to see their files and discover the names of those who informed on them to the authorities.

But the files are not to be made available to the authorities, unless state security is involved, and then only with the permission of the interior minister, subject to parliamentary approval. A draft law on this, which has the support of all parties in the Bundestag except the communists, has just been completed by the interior ministry, and should be given a first reading in the Bundestag next month.

The aim of the law is to allow Stasi victims to rehabilitate themselves and make an objective historical, political and judicial assessment of the secret police's role. Stasi members and informers are not to be protected, as they are considered "basically not worth protecting".

Gandhi assassination enquiry weighs up Tamil and Sikh links as Congress looks for successor

Police seek to identify woman with suicide bomb

From Adam Kelliher in Madras

THE dismembered head of a tall woman who assassinated Rajiv Gandhi was the focus of investigators yesterday, whose main theories are that Tamil guerrillas, Sikh extremists or unknown conspirators arranged the killing of the former Indian prime minister.

Subodh Kant Sahay, India's minister of state for home affairs, said that forensic experts had confirmed that the woman, who had yet to be identified, had concealed a high-powered bomb on her body. Sources in Madras said this exploded when she bent down to touch Gandhi's feet in a traditional gesture of Indian supplication during an election campaign visit to the town of Sriperumbudur, south of Madras.

The minister said that a wire, a spring and a British-made battery had been found on the remains of the woman's torso. The upper portion of her body had been totally blown away, but her face was intact, he added.

The following blast killed 16 people and hurled the assassin's head, with its long black hair, some 30 feet away towards a press enclosure. The device is believed to have been activated by the assassin pressing a button or by bending over. Either way, the sources in Madras said the bomb was sophisticated and not made in India, and claimed that foreign articles had been found amid the debris.

They said that forensic experts had established that the assassin was 5ft 8in tall and aged 25 to 30. Because of the woman's height, officers were pondering if she could have been a Sikh, who are generally taller than southern Indians. However, her dark complexion also bolstered theories that she may have been a Tamil. A source said: "In a day or two, her ethnicity should be established."

The team has drawn in expertise from at least four branches of government: the Central Bureau of Investigation, *India's equivalent of the* FBI; the Research and Analysis Wing, its version of the CIA; the Intelligence Bureau, a national security agency; and the National Security Guard, which is responsible for protecting India's figures of power. According to sources, the various agencies have their pet theories about who killed Gandhi, with some seeing a link with Sikh zealots fighting for the secession of the northern Punjab state, and others thinking Tamil militants in Sri Lanka were responsible.

The involvement of Sri Lankan Tamils is the most popular theory because the island's main guerrilla group — *the Liberation Tigers of* Tamil Eelam — have proved bombing expertise, a certain predilection for suicide, and an axe to grind with Gandhi because of his deployment of Indian firepower to enforce a Delhi-brokered peace initiative in 1987. However, Tamil sources in Madras discount this theory, saying that during the past three months Gandhi and the Tamil Tigers had made moves to mend their fences, should he have been returned to power in the elections. The process was reportedly set in train by Gandhi's political ally, Jayalalitha, a former film actress whose regional party is expected to make great gains in the Tamil Nadu polls.

Those looking for a conspiracy say the unknown woman was an assassin hired by somebody in Colombo who feared the return of Gandhi. He had cool links with President Premadasa of Sri Lanka, and oversaw a military expansion programme and strident foreign policy watched warily *by other South Asian nations.*

The Sri Lankan Broadcasting Corporation yesterday preceded a broadcast about the assassination with a popular Tamil song. The choice has been interpreted as an oblique message as the lyrics roughly translate: "If he has gone, let him go, and good riddance."

The authorities in Madras brought in about 3,000 more security personnel to reinforce police for today, when Gandhi's cremation takes place in Delhi. Many shops remained closed in the Tamil Nadu capital, but some stores were looted

Leading article, page 15

In sympathy: Benazir Bhutto, the former Pakistani prime minister, offering her condolences in Delhi yesterday to Priyanka and Rahul Gandhi, the children of the assassinated Congress (I) leader

Widow's reticence puts dynasty on sidelines

From Christopher Thomas in Delhi

SONIA Gandhi's refusal to take over the leadership of the Congress (I) party — assuming she means what she says — confirms the suspension, if not the end, of the Nehru dynasty. It is a measure of the party's desperation to maintain continuity that it relied on a foreign-born Christian simply because she had the name.

But the party that has ruled India for most of the 44 years of independence should not be written off. It may not have a Gandhi or a Nehru as its prime ministerial candidate, but it does have the prospect of being carried to power on a wave of sympathy when the delayed general election is completed next month.

Rajiv and Sonia Gandhi's two children — son Rahul, aged 2O, and daughter Priyanka, aged 21 — are too young to stand for parliament since the minimum age is 25. Priyanka is interested in politics and might seek the party leadership in the future.

If Mrs Gandhi sticks to her decision, there are only two viable dynastic options, both of them long shots: Arun Nehru and Maneka Gandhi. Each would like the job, but neither was popular with Gandhi or his widow, and they are not Congress members.

Arun Nehru's grandfather was the brother of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister. A former businessman, Arun Nehru became the most powerful man behind Gandhi when he first came to power in 1984. It is said that Sonia Gandhi disliked him.

Having been squeezed out of the inner circle, he left Congress and joined a group called the Jan Morcha, one of the original components of the present Janata Dal (People's party) led by V. P. Singh, who succeeded Gandhi as prime minister. He is not a contender in the general election. He was originally persuaded to enter politics by Sanjay Gandhi, Rajiv's younger brother, who died in an air crash in 1980.

Maneka Gandhi, widow of Sanjay, is India's most prominent "green" politician. She did not get on with Indira Gandhi, the former prime minister assassinated in 1984, and after Sanjay's death drifted away from the family. She left the Congress party and now belongs to the small Janata Dal (S) group, headed by Chandra Shekhar, the caretaker prime minister in whose government she was an environment minister.

Congress was certain that with Sonia Gandhi as its leader, it would romp to power on a sympathy wave. But even without being able to project her as the prime ministerial candidate, the party will plaster her image across the country to try to sustain the sympathy factor.

Congress believes it can weather the humiliation of appointing a party president who then turned it down, since she did so with dignity, citing the needs of her children. India's educated middle classes were outraged that a foreign-born Christian woman should have been selected to lead the country's principal political party, as if there were an absence of indigenous talent.

But in the villages, where 80 per cent of Indians live, the choice was popular, both because of a continuing, if diminishing, attachment to the Gandhi-Nehru dynasty and because of sympathy for Mrs Gandhi.

Party men jostle for leadership

By Christopher Thomas

WITH the death of Rajiv Gandhi, Congress (I) tried to induct his widow, Sonia, as party president. It wanted her as a figurehead because of her name. The real power, however, lies with the party barons who are now jostling for influence. The key figures are:

P. V. Narasimha Rao: He was the front runner for the party presidency before the surprise decision to select Sonia Gandhi. He is a respected elder statesman, better known in southern India than the north. *Gandhi used Mr Rao, aged 69,* as a political troubleshooter. He headed a panel that drew up the party manifesto.

Pranab Mukherjee: He was also regarded as a potential successor to Gandhi as party president. He was recently appointed as its official spokesman. Mr Mukherjee, aged 55, was finance minister for a time during Indira Gandhi's rule. He played a central role in formulating Rajiv Gandhi's economic policies. He has close connections with India's big industrialists *and heads* the party's secretive finance committee, which collects funds.

Jitendra Prasad: He was political secretary to Gandhi, a position that made him one of only two aides with a permanent office at Gandhi's private Delhi residence. He maintains close contacts with opinion-makers not directly involved in politics, as well as with non-Congress political leaders.

Ghulam Nabi Azad: A sharp-tongued insider, he wields substantial power as head of the party's parliamentary board, which selects electoral candidates.

Mani Shanker Aiyer: He was *one of a coterie of old friends* with the power to block access to Gandhi, who he got to know at Doon school.

Makhan Lal Fotetar: A Congress insider from the time of Indira Gandhi, he was latterly involved in attempts to negotiate electoral alliances. As a member of the party's finance committee he was involved in allocating funds to candidates.

Satish Sharma: He was a friend from Gandhi's days as an Indian Airlines pilot. The party elders have never accepted him, regarding him as a non-political intruder. But he was closely involved in some of Gandhi's more secretive political ventures.

Berlin regime shielded former nazis

From Anne McElvoy
in Berlin

NAZI documents found in an east Berlin archive were used by the former communist regime to blackmail West Germans and recruit them as *spies, officials said yesterday.*

The files had been hidden in a suburban building since the 1950s. The Stasi security police kept six miles of nazi files in the archive in Hohenschönhausen, including records of cases heard by the nazi supreme court, the Volksgerichtshof, and euthanasia files, the magazine *Der Spiegel* disclosed this week. The hoard also contains the SS records of deportations in Poland and the Soviet Union, long believed to have been destroyed.

The files were taken by the Russians at the end of the war and later handed back to the East German government. West Germans who had committed crimes under Hitler were often blackmailed into working for the East. The Simon Wiesenthal documentation centre in Vienna has evidence that a nazi mass murderer was blackmailed into working for the Stasi and then protected by the organisation from prosecution.

The discoveries may lead to the discovery of the fate of Gerhard Thiele, a Third Reich district political commissioner, who in the last days of the war rounded up 1,000 prisoners from the Mittelbau-Dora concentration camp, drove them into a barn and set fire to it. He was known to be living in the east, but a court case opened against him in Magdeburg was suspended without explanation.

Herr Wiesenthal said that he was horrified at the use of nazi records by the Stasi. "It is a scandal that the East Germans should have protected mass murderers in this way," he said. He also accused the old regime of hindering justice. "We needed these files 20 years ago. Now it is probably too late." Tilman Koops, of the federal archive office in Koblenz, said the find might still lead to arrests.

The authorities also suppressed crimes when it suited them, forbidding investigations into nazi judges, doctors and intelligence agents they had recycled as socialist citizens. "Political considerations took precedence over legal ones," a Stasi archivist told *Der Spiegel.* "Certain people were not charged because the world would have seen that there were nazis in the east."

Majority of Arabs want democracy and religion

From Christopher Walker in Cairo

MOST Arabs see Western-style democracy as the best form of government, according to a rare survey of opinion in the Arab world by the leading Egyptian newspaper, *al-Ahram*, which also found that many wanted enforcement of Sharia (Islamic law).

The result of the poll was seen as carrying a powerful message to the variety of non-democratic and quasi-democratic rulers in the Middle East, where many independent observers describe Israel as the only genuine democracy. Describing the poll of 4,997 people chosen as "a cross-section of the Arab world", the paper, which has close links with the government of President Mubarak, said that more than 50 per cent favour the introduction of rigid Sharia.

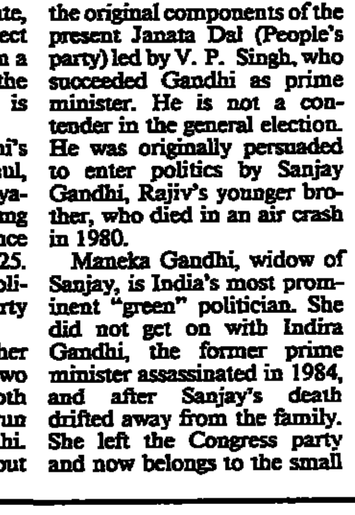
Al-Ahram claimed that the survey was the first of its kind in the region since the Gulf war. The findings, though treated with caution by Western observers, confirmed diplomatic reports of a recent growth in support for democratic institutions and Islamic fundamentalism, especially among young Arabs.

Of those questioned, 56 per cent favoured the introduction of Western-style democracy and 52.3 per cent demanded the application of Sharia, which would involve bans on alcohol and gambling and introduction of Islamic punishments. Among some Arabs, particularly in the Gulf, the proportion supporting democracy was higher.

The paper said that 69 per cent of Saudis, 71 per cent of Bahrainis, 87.5 per cent of Kuwaitis, 89 per cent of Qataris and 90 per cent of those from the United Arab Emirates wanted democracy to be introduced. "Sudan was the only country, according to the poll, in which the majority was against a democratic system. A minority of 42 per cent favoured democracy," *al-Ahram* reported.

One European diplomat commented: "The poll findings are fascinating, if not of the most scientific variety. They seem to bear out the result of the most democratic election yet seen in the Arab world: the Jordanian parliamentary election of 1989, which saw sweeping gains for the fundamentalists."

As a result, fundamentalists now control 32 of the 72 seats in Jordan's lower house of parliament in Amman. Western governments are suspected of having been slow in encouraging democracy in Arab countries partly because it could lead to big gains for fundamentalist parties.



President Mubarak, above, who will be the first Egyptian leader since the 1952 revolution to pay a state visit to Britain. The visit is expected to provoke controversy at home and abroad (Christopher Walker writes). The dates, July 23-26, coincide with an Egyptian national holiday to mark the overthrow of the late King Farouk. A senior Egyptian official said: "It came like an electric shock when I heard that the president will be out of the country at that time."

Israel holds firm to settler policy

From Richard Beeston in Jerusalem

ISRAEL yesterday rebuffed British and American attacks on its settlement policy in the occupied territories and instead tried to blame Syria for holding up progress on Middle East peace talks.

Reacting to criticism on Wednesday from Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and James Baker, the American Secretary of State, Israel's right-wing government made it clear that it was unrepentant and intended to continue its controversial policy of encouraging Jewish colonization of occupied Arab lands.

Yossi Ben-Aharon, director-general of the office of Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, said that Jews had a right to live where they wanted and the world was mistaken if it believed that the settlement issue was hindering the chances of success for the US-led peace initiative.

Mr Ben-Aharon said: "As the prime minister explained both to President Bush and Secretary Baker time and again, this is not the obstacle, and do not focus on this issue because it is inconceivable in Judea, Samaria [the biblical names for the West Bank] and the Gaza Strip."

The areas were captured by Israel during the six-day war in 1967 and have been under Israeli military administration since that time. They are home to about 1.75 million Palestinians and 100,000 right-wing Jewish settlers.

The present government is encouraging new settlers to move to the territories by offering them financial incentives, and Ariel Sharon, the housing minister, has launched a construction plan aimed at increasing the settler population by 50 per cent over the next two years.

Hezbollah offers to swap captives

From Ali Jaber in Beirut

SHEIKH Abbas Mousawi, the new leader of Hezbollah, the pro-Iranian Muslim fundamentalist group, said yesterday that he was ready to exchange two Israeli soldiers in his custody since 1986 with Arab and Lebanese prisoners held in Israel.

If the exchange materialises, it could remove the last obstacle to the release of about 12 foreigners held here for many months by shadowy groups affiliated to Hezbollah. Sheikh Mousawi announced "our readiness for an honourable swap". Admitting for the first time that his group holds two of seven Israeli soldiers announced missing in Lebanon since 1986, Sheikh Mousawi said: "We have already set our conditions and conveyed them to the concerned party through the press or intermediary organisations."

Yosi Fink and Rahamin Alsheck were captured in a Hezbollah ambush during an Israeli incursion into southern Lebanon in 1985. Another Israeli airman was captured by the Shia Amal militia after his jet was shot down over Sidon, 30 miles south of Beirut, and was later handed over to Hezbollah.

Sheikh Mousawi said that repeated efforts to swap the Israelis with Lebanese and Arab prisoners in the Jewish state were deadlocked and he blamed Tel Aviv for complicating the issue. He described the foreign hostages as "spies who deserve death".

Among them are six Americans, three Britons, two Germans and an Italian. Their fate is believed to be tightly linked with that of Shia and Arab guerrillas imprisoned in Israel for attacks on the "security zone" in south Lebanon.

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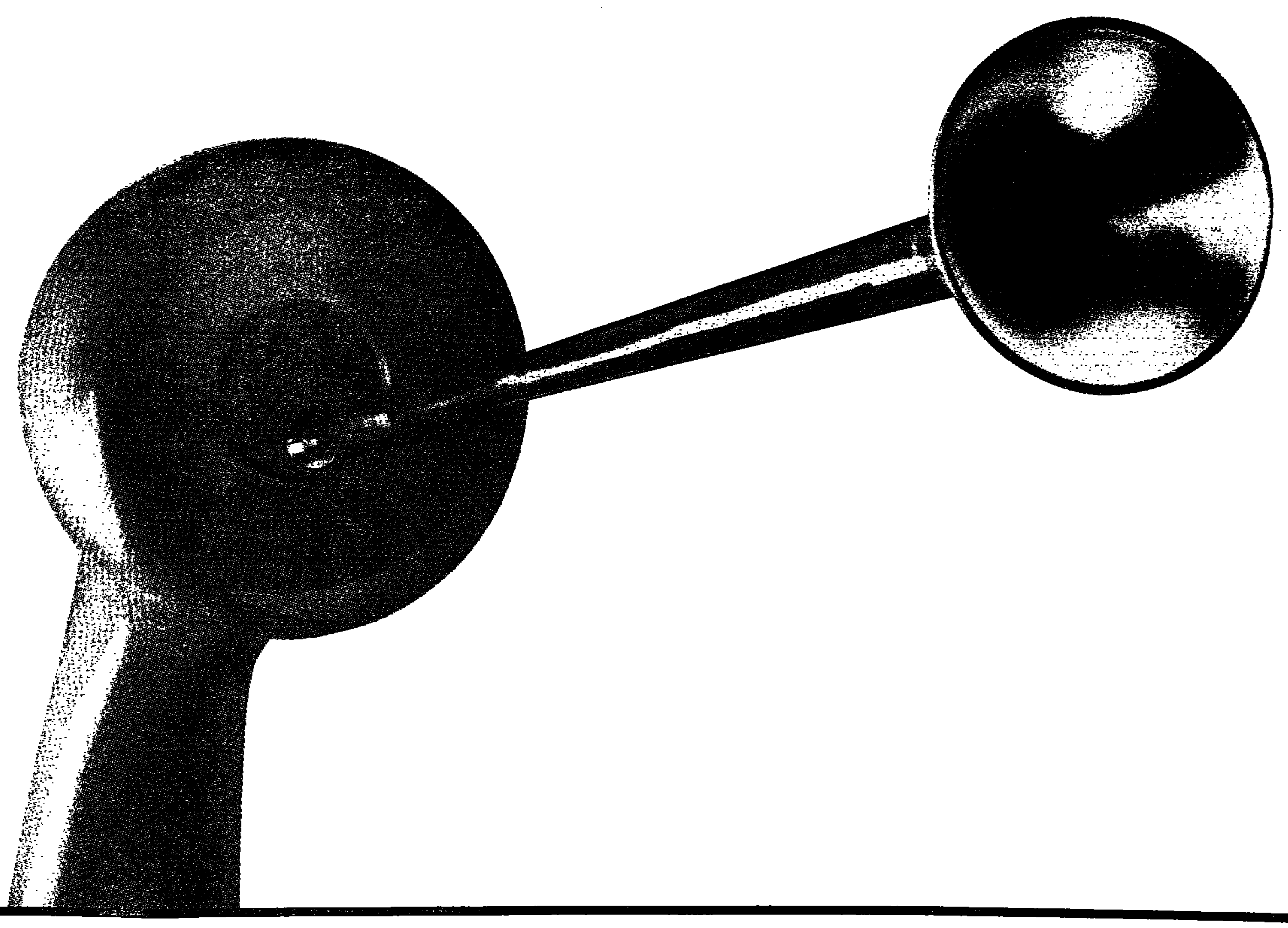

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Rebels press Addis Ababa defences as Lenin topples

From David Chazan in Addis Ababa

ETHIOPIANS were overjoyed to see government workers tear down a huge bronze statue of Lenin here yesterday, amid celebrations at the flight of President Mengistu, but there was also apprehension at rebel advances towards the capital.

The insurgents have so far spurned the government's offer of an immediate ceasefire before peace talks, due to open in London on Monday, raising fears of a bloodbath in Addis Ababa.

About 100 people gathered to watch the workers, who laughed and joked as they unbolted the 33ft-high monument to the socialist ideology that brought them bloody, stalinist-style purges, civil war and famine. They also tore down giant portraits of Lieutenant-Colonel Mengistu after the departure for Zimbabwe of the man who ruled Ethiopia by blood and terror for 14 years. The crowd took the appearance of a rainbow as a sign from God that the troubles of famine-stricken Ethiopia, ravaged by 30 years of civil war, were ending.

Tesfaye Gabre Kidan, the acting president, pleaded with the rebels to observe an immediate ceasefire ahead of the peace talks, mediated by America. But the rebels vowed to fight on until the government left by Colonel Mengistu was wiped out.

In what was seen as a step towards dismantling Colonel Mengistu's mechanism of repression, Ethiopia's highest executive body, the state council, announced the freeing of 180 political prisoners. They included nine people implicated in an abortive coup in May 1989, which ended in the execution of 12 generals.

Guerrillas of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front were said by diplomatic sources to be within 18 miles of the capital. The sources said that the guerrillas, which has promised to halt before Addis Ababa, had continued to advance after taking Addis Alam, 33 miles west of the capital. A diplomat said: "The army just caved in. It looks like they're coming in. Now that they can see the gates of Addis, I doubt whether the political leaders will be able to hold back their fighters, given that they aren't encountering any resistance." Another diplomat said he had seen dozens of soldiers in Addis Ababa who had apparently fled the fighting.

In a move indicating a degree of panic among the armed forces, four air force pilots have flown to neighbouring Djibouti, asking for political asylum. An unknown number of other pilots were said to have fled to Aden, in Yemen.

In a broadcast to the nation on Addis Ababa radio, General Tesfaye said that if the rebels fought their way into the capital, the situation might become even uglier. He said the authorities were committed to setting up a transitional government comprising all parties, in line with rebel demands. The regime was waiting for an urgent response from the opposition parties to the call for a ceasefire so that bloodshed could immediately be halted, he added.

Some observers, however, remained hopeful that the departure of Colonel Mengistu would clear the way for agreement at the peace talks. A diplomat said that the Ethiopian front had a choice between going to London or coming into Addis Ababa, and it might just be easier to take the city, although the international community would not welcome another government imposed by force.

Ethiopia's other main rebel group, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, has also stepped up its offensive. The movement, fighting for the independence of the Red Sea province of Eritrea, announced that it had captured the town of Dekemhare, 24 miles south of Asmara, the encircled Eritrean capital which is still held by the government but is frequently bombarded.

Diplomatic sources said that America, the Soviet Union and the European Community were putting pressure on all the sides to settle their grievances at the peace talks, which will include representatives of the Ethiopian and Eritrean fronts, and a third, smaller movement, the Oromo Liberation Front.

There was mounting concern at the plight of some seven million people threatened by famine. The United Nations has suspended many relief operations after an upsurge of fighting last week, which prevented food convoys reaching the drought-stricken north. *(AFP)*

Bitter earth: a rebel of the United Somali Congress in Chisimaio, seized from government forces last month

COLIN BOYLE/SELECT

Life in the balance: at a feeding centre Bishar weighed less than when born a year ago

Famine threatens Somali capital as thousands of refugees flock in

The rebel victory at Mogadishu has proved hollow, **Tim Deagle** reports, as Western agencies try to feed children in a city on the brink of mass starvation

THE impossibly thin child hung in the weighing harness, kicking and screaming in protest. Loose folds of skin hung from her skeletal arms and legs, covering nothing but tissue and bone, the harsh midday sun making dark shadows of her sunken eyes and deep valleys between her protruding ribs.

The needle on the scales above her head jumped wildly as she kicked into the humid air, but it settled at 7½lb when, tired by her efforts, she hung motionless, swinging gently in the harness, moaning softly. Bishar weighs less now than when she was born a year ago. According to Save the Children's Somalia director, Paul Simon, she is just one of 30,000 dangerously malnourished children in a city of 800,000 on the brink of mass starvation.

"The situation is chronic. We are planning to do more, opening more feeding centres, but it's not going to be enough," he says. "Until the international organisations come in here with the vast quantities of food that is needed, these people will simply continue to deteriorate rapidly from bloody hungry to starving. It's as simple as that."

Mogadishu is a city in ruins. The brutal civil war that has ravaged Somalia since the beginning of the year has brought the country to the verge of collapse and left its capital almost totally destroyed and unable to feed its population. Save the Children is one of only three aid agencies working in Somalia at present; the United Nations and the other big donor organisations pulled out when the fighting between the government forces and the opposition United Somali Congress (USC) threatened to engulf Mogadishu.

The front line is now 217 miles to the south, but so far only Save the Children, the Red Cross and Médecins sans Frontières have returned, as they are warning that they cannot avert the famine by themselves. "We have run out of time, that is the bottom line. People are already dying in Mogadishu from starvation and I don't see any food getting in here for another six or seven weeks of any significant amount," says Ben Foot, Save the Children director.

At the Save the Children intensive-feeding centre in the refugee camps that cover what was once a children's fairground, two lines of women sit on the concrete floor cradling barely living examples of malnutrition. With skin stretched tight across their gaunt faces, above bodies so devoid of flesh and muscle as to defy belief, children wait for the first of four meals a day that will try to add some substance to their empty frames. Success, if that term can be applied in a place of such desperation, is measured in grammes. A gain in weight of 200 grammes in 24 hours is considered good progress. Gains are small and desperately slow, the losses tragic and frequent.

Last month, despite the best efforts of the aid workers here, 30 children died in this clinic alone, but the Save the Children team say it is just a fraction of the numbers dying across the city. "It is meaningless to say that 30 children died in our feeding centre last month, because we know many, many more are dying in their homes in the city unseen, and that is where the vast majority will die. We can only reach 1,500 children out of 30,000, so we just do not see them die — but they will die just the same."

Mogadishu has seen the death of thousands in the battle to control the city. The USC now holds the capital, having defeated the government forces of ex-President Siad Barre and driven them south, but the victory is a hollow one. The scars of war adorn every building in the shape of scores of bullet holes and smashed and burnt masonry from tanks and artillery shells. Most of Mogadishu's ministries, banks, offices, shops, museums and many homes are now no more than piles of blackened rubble.

The city's cathedral, bombarded by the government's forces and later looted and burnt by the opposition, is a scene of almost total destruction. The altar lies smashed and bullet-ridden below a statue of Christ decapitated by a piece of shrapnel.

The city has been without electricity for months now and the only lights illuminating Mogadishu at night are the multicoloured tracer bullets that scream over the city, fired by bored USC soldiers. This lethal nightly display, accompanied by the sound of heavy machineguns, small arms and sometimes mortar fire, continues until dawn. Bullets are plentiful and cheap and can be bought in large quantities from cigarette vendors in the street.

Food, however, is scarce and very expensive. The large amount of rice and grain looted from government stores during the fighting is running out quickly as the only place to buy new supplies is the black market. But with the economy in shreds and inflation out of control, few can afford the high prices.

One egg costs 8,000 Somali shillings (£1.17), and with prices doubling every 10 days the number of people able to buy even the most basic necessities is diminishing. The money-changers who loiter by the waterfront carry huge bundles of banknotes wrapped in bright bath towels. Ten dollars worth of Somali shillings is too big for your wallet and to pay a hotel bill you need a medium-sized briefcase. A year ago 500 shillings would have bought a decent meal in a restaurant with change left over for a couple of bottles of beer and a taxi home. Today the same amount will buy you a box of matches.

Desperately thin children line the streets begging barefoot, clothed in torn and dirty shorts and T-shirts advertising American soft drinks and European football teams. More and more of the population are turning to the aid agencies for help, but with extremely limited supplies the vast majority have been turned away hungry. With thousands arriving from rural areas looking for food, limited resources that are already insufficient will soon become insignificant.

At one of the fast-expanding refugee camps on the city outskirts, 4,000 people live in makeshift tents and huts made of rags, plastic sheeting, driftwood and whatever they can scavenge from the rubbish heap lining the roads. Some refugees have travelled 250 miles to find food and they have arrived in a city that offers them perhaps less than where they came from. There is no feeding programme, no aid at all. They have little money and are growing desperate.

An old man, his spine bent, leaning heavily on his walking stick, stood next to me. I offered him a cigarette. "Thank you but, no," he replied. "You see, we can't eat cigarettes."

Aid signal to Moscow by Bush

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

PRESIDENT Bush yesterday signalled that he was ready to consider an anticipated Soviet request for massive infusions of Western aid to rescue the Soviet Union's failing economy in return for fundamental reforms. He added that the viability of Soviet plans could well determine whether President Gorbachev was invited to July's G7 economic summit in London.

Mr Bush confirmed that at President Gorbachev's request he would receive a top-level Soviet delegation next week which was expected to present him with "new ideas" on economic reform. He predicted "a lot of diplomacy" and consultations with allies between now and the London summit of the world's leading industrialised nations. All the options on whether to invite Mr Gorbachev, and in what capacity, remained open.

Mr Gorbachev suggested in Moscow on Wednesday that the Soviet Union needed up to $100 billion (£59 billion) in Western aid over an unspecified number of years. James Baker, the US Secretary of State, told congressmen the same day that such aid would be strictly conditional on Moscow implementing radical economic and political reform. That now appears to be exactly what Mr Gorbachev is considering.

Mr Bush said it was in the interests of America that the Soviet Union reformed and that the country became more democratic. He went on: "I have never believed President Gorbachev has given up on reform."

Mr Bush had not yet received any specific proposal from Mr Gorbachev, but when one came his answer would be to look at it. He said that $100 billion was a "large piece of change" which would have to be looked at positively but also realistically.

Darling buds of May: Dudley Reid, aged 84, proposing to Minnie Munroe, aged 102, his sweetheart of four years, at Point Clare nursing village, near Sydney, Australia

Powell to serve second term as Pentagon chief

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

PRESIDENT Bush said yesterday that General Colin Powell would serve a second term as chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, thereby quelling speculation that the Gulf war celebrity might replace Dan Quayle, the vice-president, on the 1992 Republican ticket or — a remote possibility — run for the Democrats.

Mr Bush's announcement, made a full four months before the expiration of General Powell's first two-year term, closely follows the presidential health scare that triggered a fresh clamour for the jettisoning of Mr Quayle. The president has never wavered in his loyalty to his widely derided vice-president.

The announcement coincided with a bout of speculation about General Powell's judgment and political affiliations. This was inspired by a new book by Bob Woodward, the journalist who helped expose the Watergate scandal, which claimed that America's top general was at odds with President Bush's readiness to go to war with Iraq and sympathetic to the Democratic policy of relying on sanctions.

Some reports have suggested that General Powell was a primary source for Woodward's book. Though he has occupied top posts under two Republican presidents, the general has never divulged his political allegiance.

White House sources suggested that the timing of Mr Bush's announcement was intended primarily to demonstrate harmony between him and the general, rather than to aid Mr Quayle. The president went out of his way yesterday to emphasise his great confidence in General Powell, saying that he had been a "constructive force all the way along the line".

Mr Bush said that in the run-up to the war, the general "told me the risks, he told me what was at stake in human life, he told me what his view was to how it would go if we had to commit forces, which was always very positive, and I am unhappy about revisionistic views of things". Neither man explicitly denied that the general had advised against the use of force.

General Powell, aged 54, could well be a presidential or vice-presidential candidate in the 1996 elections when Mr Bush must stand down.

Britain accused on airport

Peking — Chinese officials appeared to blame their British counterparts for the failure of the two sides to reach an agreement after five days' talks on Hong Kong's plans for a new airport (Catherine Sampson writes).

Wu Jianmin, the Chinese foreign ministry spokesman, said that Peking had offered British officials a draft agreement during their negotiations.

Andrew Burns, the head of the British delegation, declined to say whether any progress had been made and said that he did not know whether another round of talks would be held.

Korean amnesty

Seoul — South Korea, trying to end mass protests after the beating to death of a student, granted an amnesty to 258 people jailed for political crimes. Seventy-four will be freed, 30 will have sentences reduced, and 154, including Kim Dae Jung, the opposition leader, will have pending charges dropped. *(Reuter)*

Nun murdered

Lima — Maoist Shining Path guerrillas shot dead five people, including an Australian nun, after a "people's trial" in front of residents in the main square of the village of Huasahuasi in the central Andean highlands of Peru. Sister Irene Omeara had been working with the poor of the community. *(Reuter)*

De Klerk blow

Johannesburg — President de Klerk has failed the first test of his apartheid reforms with rural white voters in a by-election in the Orange Free State. However, he said that the result would make no difference to political realities. The by-election at Ladybrand was won by the right-wing Conservative party.

Miss Mexico sees glamour in a free trade zone

A single market would widen chances for Canadian, American and Mexican trade and reduce the threat of competition from Europe and Japan, **Susan Ellicott** writes in Washington

AT THE Miss Universe 1991 contest earlier this month in Las Vegas, the three finalists for the crown were asked to name the most important goal for their country. Happiness, said Miss Soviet Union. Protecting the environment, said Miss Netherlands. Miss Mexico, however, outdid her rivals: a free trade agreement with the rest of North America. The $250,000 (£144,000) prize was hers.

The White House itself could not have thought of a better public relations drive for one of President Bush's top legislative priorities — a trading zone stretching from the Yukon to Yucatán, linking the world's largest and two of its top 15 economies. The Bush administration claims that a three-nation trading bloc without border tariffs, creating a single market larger than post-1992 Europe, would boost opportunities for American, Canadian and Mexican workers, while failure could make America prey to competition from Europe and Japan.

The country which stands to benefit most by far from a North American free trade pact is Mexico as Carlos Salinas de Gortari, its right-wing president, forges ahead with bold plans to drive his country out of a historic isolation. Over the past few years, barriers to overseas competition have eased. Mexican supermarkets now stock American Budweiser beer, Californian wine, and a wider array of consumer goods than five years ago.

For Mexico's expanding middle class, a free trade agreement with the United States, which would commit Señor Salinas's successors to his reforms, holds out the hope of further prosperity. Mr Bush, under whose presidency American relations have steadily improved since the Reagan years, sees an opening not simply for further exports to Mexico, but for a foreign policy master stroke.

As Robert Lawrence, an economist with the Brookings Institution think tank, puts it, a North American free trade zone would be a "fantastically good move with respect to Latin America". As European countries have moved toward establishing a single market, South American countries, too, have taken steps toward greater economic groupings. Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay have set up one free trade zone; Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela another. Canada and the United States signed a free trade accord in 1989.

Favouring closer trade ties rather than aid to support moves by Latin and Central American governments towards democracy and economic health, the Bush administration has signed bilateral free trade pacts with Chile, Peru and El Salvador. Free trade negotiations with Mexico, Mr Bush's economic team argues, would allow the United States to consolidate these efforts.

So far American political debate about the proposed North American free trade zone has focused on a vote to grant Mr Bush special authority instead of Congress to negotiate the package. The House and Senate, despite intensive lobbying by labour unions and environmental groups, were expected to vote as early as yesterday in favour of handing over the responsibility to Mr Bush, forfeiting a right to amend the resulting package, with protection measures.

Opponents of a US-Mexico-Canada deal complain that America is likely to lose as many as hundreds of thousands of jobs because US firms will move south of the 2,000-mile US-Mexico border in order to take advantage of cheaper wages and laxer anti-pollution laws.

Few would argue that their fears are groundless. The Bush administration has pledged to pressure Mexico on pollution and safety controls and has said that casualties in the job market will be a short-term difficulty, giving way to openings as the wealth of Mexico's 90 million inhabitants increases. Ottawa supports an agreement, despite domestic grumbling that the free trade accord with the United States increased unemployment as the country went into a deep recession.

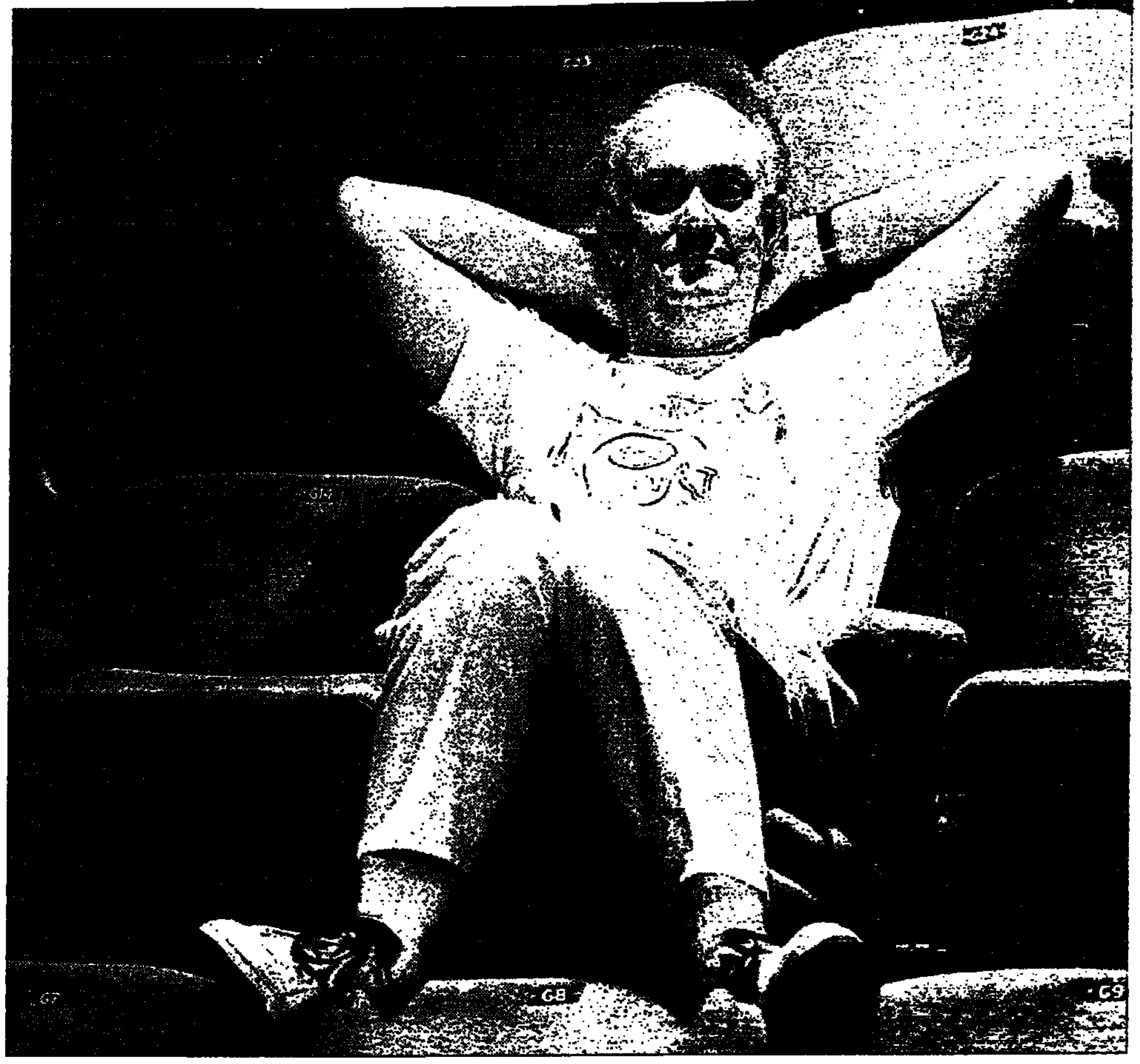
Mr Bush himself has staked his reputation on trade. As a Texan, he has a better understanding of the importance of good relations with Mexico than many of his predecessors in the White House. The influential "Texas connection" in his cabinet includes James Baker, his Secretary of State, and Robert Mosbacher, his commerce secretary. For these men, one advantage of free trade with Mexico is especially obvious — a halt in the illegal immigration of thousands of Mexicans into the United States.

His supporters argue that since 2.6 million American jobs moved offshore anyway during the 1980s, mainly to the Pacific Rim, the United States might as well pursue economic ties with Mexico, which is nearer than Korea or Taiwan. That way at least some firms in California could split their operations across the border.

Kate Muir talks to Alan Ayckbourn, professor-designate and Scarborough leading light, about good writing and commercial success

A chorus of approval for the last resort

STEPHEN MARKESON



Ageing ungracefully: Alan Ayckbourn's San Francisco 49ers T-shirt and trainers are clues to the amount of energy he expends directing

Off to see Oxford university's next professor of contemporary theatre, who resides, naturally, in sunny Scarborough. Like any academic, the prof does not stray far from his sources, and the Yorkshire seaside town has the added advantage that more material is imported every day, all summer, by British Rail. Today's trans-Pennine express has a batch of pensioner pairs on saver tickets. Generally she is knitting another cardie, while he is filming the rails and trees going by with his video camera. They are ideal characters for the prof. a.k.a. playwright Alan Ayckbourn, because they fulfil his criteria of being lower middle-class, dull, and probably suffocated by a bad marriage.

"Mmmm. It's the Saga time of year again," Mr Ayckbourn says. "Hate an audience that's all one thing, all OAPs or all kids. Too one-dimensional. It's lovely to have a good mixed audience." And that is usually what he gets at the Stephen Joseph theatre, opposite Tesco's car-park, Scarborough, where he has premiered almost all of his 43 plays.

> *'They've had nudity, poor loves, male and female, and now they've got women kissing each other. Heaven knows what's next'*

As the most regularly performed playwright in Britain (Shakespeare comes a poor second at the moment), Mr Ayckbourn's talents have at last been recognised by the academic establishment, and he will follow Stephen Sondheim and Sir Ian McKellen in the year-long Oxford post. There is a frisson of sniffiness about the appointment of such a populist, the creator of such titles as *Bedroom Farce* and *How the Other Half Loves*, as though Jeffrey Archer had been asked to lecture in English literature.

But Mr Ayckbourn is endearingly direct. He admits he would not know a seminar if he met it in his soup. "I'm a complete fraud. I never even went to university, so I think the course will be intensely practical, not theoretical." He will teach what he is good at, writing and directing, bringing whole plays and casts down to Oxford to be dissected, front and backstage.

This is not the first time he has suffered the slings and arrows of outrageous snobbery. He recalls theatre directors announcing their new season: "It will be full and exciting. We shall not be resorting to Alan Ayckbourn and Agatha Christie." The playwright of last resort is not happy being bracketed with Miss Christie. "It seems in this country that you can't be commercially successful *and* good. You're either one or the other."

The 300-seat Stephen Joseph theatre is one of the few British repertory companies with a toehold in the black. As its (unpaid) artistic director, Mr Ayckbourn stages his new play each year, and directs a couple of others which are usually less lucrative. London's critics are forced to schlep up to Scarborough for the yearly Ayckbourn premiere, which tends to make them a little irritated and patronising. The latest production, *Wildest Dreams*, opened earlier this month to good reviews, although Irving Wardle in the *Independent on Sunday* said: "Why bother to write ambitious pieces if London is going to ignore them, when he can produce less taxing material to entertain his seaside customers?"

Mr Ayckbourn is at pains to point out he considers comedy to be the highest of art forms, and not the lowest. His work is occasionally described as "sitcom", much to his disgust, because he writes about middle classes in living-rooms. "Hmph. But so do they all."

If Mr Ayckbourn did a bit more posing around with the right people, or at least looked as if he was suffering for his art, the critics and intellectuals might be better disposed. But they resent him for making an estimated £1 million a year in royalties, driving a big BMW, and living in a whopping Georgian rectory.

There is also the problem with his appearance. He looks like the Pillsbury Doughboy. Too many dinners, too many chins, not enough angst. Worse still, he is wearing a San Francisco 49ers T-shirt and LA Gear trainers with fluorescent laces. He is 52.

Such clothing is in fact a clue to the amount of energy he expends directing. The company is rehearsing one play in the morning, and another in the afternoon in an old classroom, and Mr Ayckbourn is padding around, physically turning people in the right direction, making a suggestion here, a comment there. He subscribes to the indirect school of directing, rather than shouting and frontal attack. "I tend to get to know actors quickly, because they have to use aspects of themselves for the part. I don't know much about their personal life outside, but by the time we've finished I know a lot about their psyches, inside. Actors need to be strong, they need a solid lead centre or they won't survive, and somehow you've got to make them all work in one room and respect and spark each other. It's half psychiatry and half diplomacy."

As Mr Ayckbourn gets older, his interest in insides grows. When he wrote his first play, *The Square Cat*, as a 20-year-old jobbing actor, he merely wanted to create a large part for himself and get the girl. Now, confidence in the basics of structuring a play means he can spend more time on character, and less on the surface situation. "If you scratch people, they get darker."

His comedy has gone from tasteful beige to competely black over the years. *Wildest Dreams* is a romp featuring a former abused child, an insane wife who regresses to babyhood, a stroke, and a couple of lesbians. It is the I-didn't-know-whether-to-laugh-or-cry school of comedy, and it has Scarborough's Saga-trippers twitching in their seats. "They do intake their breath when the women kiss, I must say," gloats Mr Ayckbourn from a flowered armchair in the middle of the round stage set, surrounded by seats. " 'Ooh,' they go, 'heavens'. But it is pretty harmless. It's a fact of life. They've had nudity, poor loves, full frontal male and female, and now they've got women kissing each other. Heaven knows what's next."

Although the content of the next play may be variable, the time it takes to write will be, as usual, one week. The playwright hates writing plays. He used to be a deadline junkie, unable to put hand to word processor until just a few days before rehearsals were about to start. The theatre would advertise the title and print the playbills four weeks beforehand to encourage the author to get down to it. Meanwhile Mr Ayckbourn would be at home, doing jigsaws and playing patience and waiting for ideas. Then suddenly, he would write non-stop and arrive one morning with an almost perfect manuscript.

Working for the National Theatre for the past four years has ended such slacking, since it requires notice of plays months ahead. Mr Ayckbourn was forced to imagine he had a deadline in October for the play produced the next year.

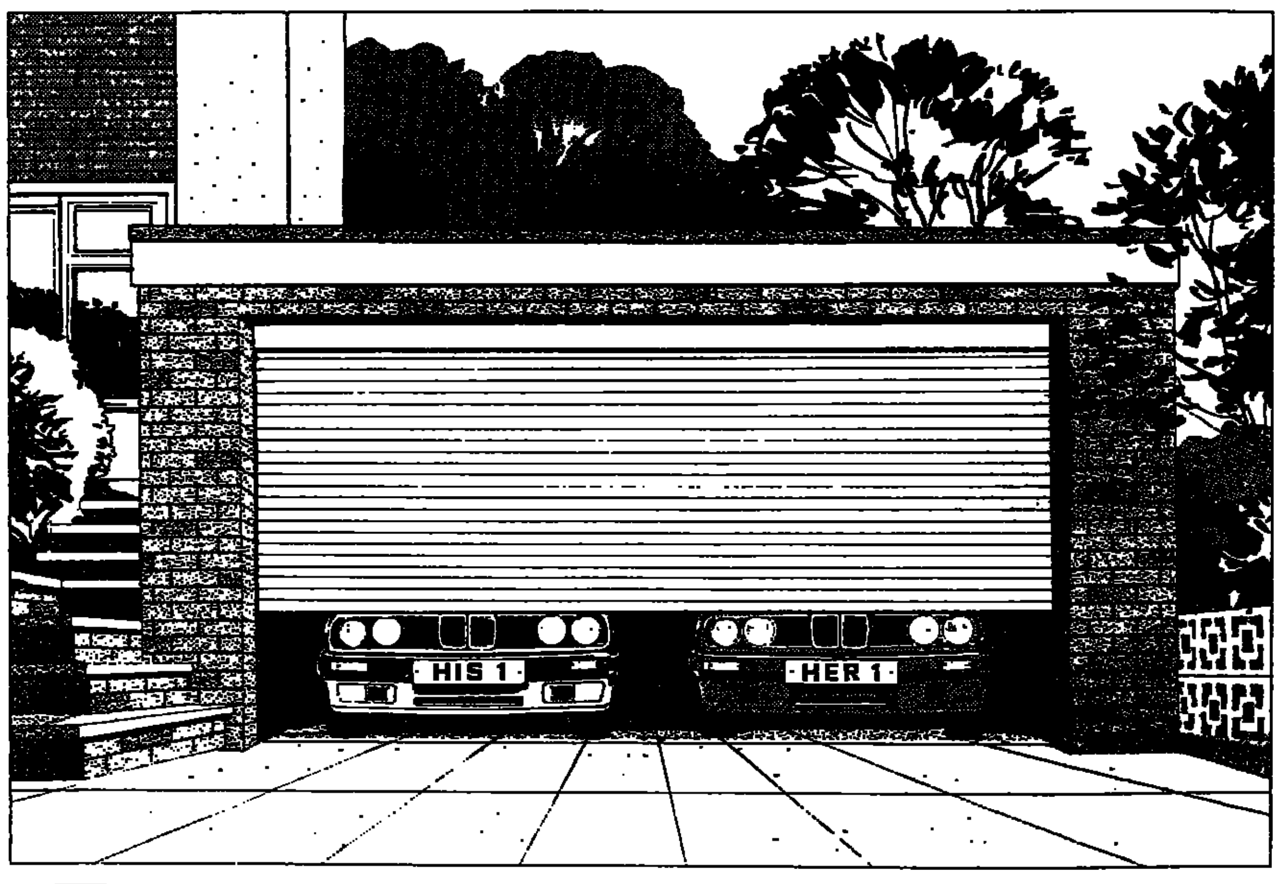
He considers directing to be the reward for the slog of writing, which he can cope with only for short periods.

"To hold eight people in your mind, with distinctive characters and voices, for more than a week is very hard. It begins to send you slightly barmy. I don't put down that a man has a neurotic mother, but I've got it in my head, and I'm holding on to all these characters with some crazy sense of splitting my personality quite radically."

The Ayckbourn personality must have a lot of female in it, since his women characters are very well observed. He was brought up mainly by his mother, a writer of romantic fiction for magazines, who was obviously important to him. She used to drag him along to work, and leave him sitting in the foyer of *Woman's Own* "watching these enormously tall women going past. They all seemed to be massive." His stepfather, a bank manager, was of little interest to him in real life, but has been well utilised in his plays.

Mr Ayckbourn went to a boarding school originally set up by the East India Company at Haileybury, Hertfordshire, where he got very interested in women. "They were off the syllabus for so many years one got incredibly curious about them." He pauses to giggle. "I married the second one I met just to find out what they were like." His marriage resulted in two children, separation, but not acrimony. For the last 20 years he has lived with the actress Heather Storey, writing about claustrophobia in others' marriages, while avoiding the institution himself.

His major obsession has been politics of the sexual rather than party kind, often seen from the female point of view. "The women must be part of me, dressed in convenient hand-me-down bodies. If you're writing from the heart it can only come out of you, not from observing others." He leans forward, half serious, from his seat in the middle row of the empty theatre. "Besides, I have the sum of all human faults in my character, so it is very easy to find material."



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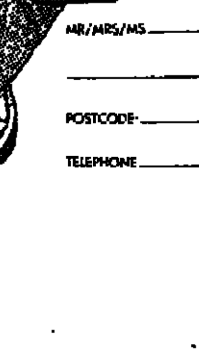

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Palace at home with the range

Parts of Hampton Court's re-created Tudor kitchens are surprisingly modern

JUST inside the entrance to the newly re-created Tudor kitchens at Hampton Court there is a locked wooden door. The butchery is opposite, its somewhat sensational stuffed animals, including a deer culled from the Hampton Court herd, lying as if newly slaughtered, their blood splashed around the whitewashed walls. Next door, real herbs are scattered in great bunches across a dresser and line the bottom of a genuine, period mortar. But behind the locked wooden door, the relics of a different, more genteel world linger.

The Tudor butchery

The door gives directly on to a narrow staircase, its balustrade intact apart from the bottom newel post. The stairs lead to a series of empty rooms that seem pokey in comparison with the lofty spaces of the great kitchens nearby. Cast iron Victorian fireplaces and wallpaper of the Sixties, with an eye-catching pattern of swags of unpleasantly realistic ivy, betray the history of the rooms. Until recently these were "grace-and-favour" apartments. Hampton Court, begun by Cardinal Wolsey in 1514, extended by Henry VIII from 1529 and subsequently by Sir Christopher Wren for William and Mary, from 1689, is still a royal palace.

Other grace-and-favour apartments around the palace's many courtyards are still occupied and until 1978 the great kitchens themselves were apartments. The entrance, now the butchery and the boiling house, was once the hall of an apartment.

The question for Simon Thurley, the Historic Royal Palaces Agency's curator, and his team was how far to strip back the historical evidence of at least two centuries of occupation, to reveal the Tudor kitchens.

The kitchens were made up of about 50 rooms, with a total floor area of 36,000 sq ft. The grace-and-favour room divisions did not necessarily correspond to those of the kitchens, however. Mr Thurley's job was made easier by the fact that in 1978 a predecessor had stripped out several floors of apartments and loaded them into a skip, 18th century panelling and all. It was partly to prevent such outright losses that the Historic Royal Palaces Agency was created in 1989.

In any case, conservation theory has moved on since 1978, and the principle governing the recreation of the kitchens was that evidence of subsequent uses of the rooms should be left visible, and that no changes that were made should be irreversible. So the room divisions in the entrance area correspond more nearly to the grace-and-favour period than the Tudor one; the whitewashed walls in the butchery are plasterboard covering an intact Victorian fireplace; and the missing bottom newel post is in safekeeping, should the hidden staircase ever be returned to view.

Likewise, a Victorian range that once stood in the kitchen of Lady Baden-Powell, grace-and-favour resident and the widow of the founder of the Boy Scout movement, has been left where it was, occupying, somewhat comically, the centre of a giant Tudor fireplace.

What will casual visitors make of such anachronisms when the kitchens are officially opened to the public tomorrow? The answer, strangely, is that probably they will hardly be noticed. The restoration team's two aims of authenticity, and bringing back life into the kitchens, mean that the overall impression is as robustly "original" as anyone could wish. A real wood fire crackles beneath a cauldron, the spit is turned by a 17th century clockwork mechanism, and genuine 16th and 17th century knives and pewter plates lie all about. In such an environment, who is going to tap the walls to see if they are solid?

Upstairs, in the empty apartment which originally would have housed kitchen staff, a part of the floorboards has been removed. Underneath, Tudor floorboards have been revealed. When the rooms were converted at least two centuries ago, new joists were simply laid on top, at right angles to the existing ones, according to Mr Thurley. "These are some of the very few floorboards left in the palace that Henry VIII might actually have walked on," he says. Perhaps the restorers' principle of doing nothing that is irreversible is not so new, after all.

CALLUM MURRAY

Minimalism?

Architect Jonathan Caplan converted eleven cluttered rooms into one living and work space.

or Maximalism?

Textile designer Wendy Greenbury created a stylish apartment out of one tiny room.

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RECORDS: ROCK

Snappy crackle of electropop

Electronic: Electronic
(Factory FACT 290)
Soft Cell/Mark Almond: Memorabilia - The Singles
(Mercury 848512-2)
De La Soul: De La Soul is Dead
(Big Life BLR LP8)

ALTHOUGH by no means an obvious pairing, the alliance between New Order vocalist Bernard Sumner and former Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr is one of the dream tickets of modern pop. Calling themselves **Electronic**, the duo follows up two enthralling hit singles, "Getting Away With It" and "Get the Message", with an eponymous debut album of similar polish and distinction.

Since emerging relatively unscathed from the wreckage of the Smiths, Marr has functioned as a rather chameleon-like figure, happily contributing to groups as disparate as the Pretenders and The The, without quite stamping his own mark on them. Sumner, meanwhile, has seen his wan, world-weary voice invested with ever-greater authority as New Order's stature has grown ineluctably over the course of the Eighties.

Not surprisingly then, it is the technological poise and club-rock grooves with which New Order is associated that tend to dominate in songs such as "Idiot Country" and "Reality", although there is a distinctly Smithsonian tilt to "Tighten Up", where Marr bashes an acoustic guitar with typical fervour.

But most of all, Electronic sounds like a hipper version of the Pet Shop Boys, an impression confirmed by the guest appearance of none other than Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe on "The Patience of a Saint". With its fey lyrics, infuriatingly catchy chorus and a drum-sound like raindrops falling on a paper bag, this is classic electropop.

One of the prime movers in the initial revolution that took a goodly slice of pop away from the men with guitars and gave it to the boys with synthesizers was **Marc Almond**. Ten years after his duo Soft Cell enjoyed a No 1 hit with "Tainted Love", Mercury records has issued *Memorabilia*, which is a compilation of Almond's most successful singles, both with and without Soft Cell.

Almond: remixed

Although Almond's coquettish mannerisms and Soft Cell's tinny sound were initially hard to swallow, it is remarkable how durable many of these (now remixed) songs have turned out to be. "Say Hello, Wave Goodbye", "Torch" and "What" sound as vigorous as they ever did, while reinterpretations of older material such as "I Feel Love" (with Bronski Beat) and the epic "Something's Gotten Hold of my Heart" (with Gene Pitney) retain the timeless quality that made them such big hits in the first place.

Much energy has been expended in trying to tease out the meaning of De La Soul's latest opus, *De La Soul is Dead*, but to little avail. As an idiosyncratic counterweight to the macho breastbeating that besets much of rap, the album has its share of delightful moments. But there is a whiff of self-indulgence in the air as sizeable chunks of it are given over to American radio advertisements, interspersed with scratchy old soul records, answerphone messages, hysterical giggling and insane piano bashing.

DAVID SINCLAIR

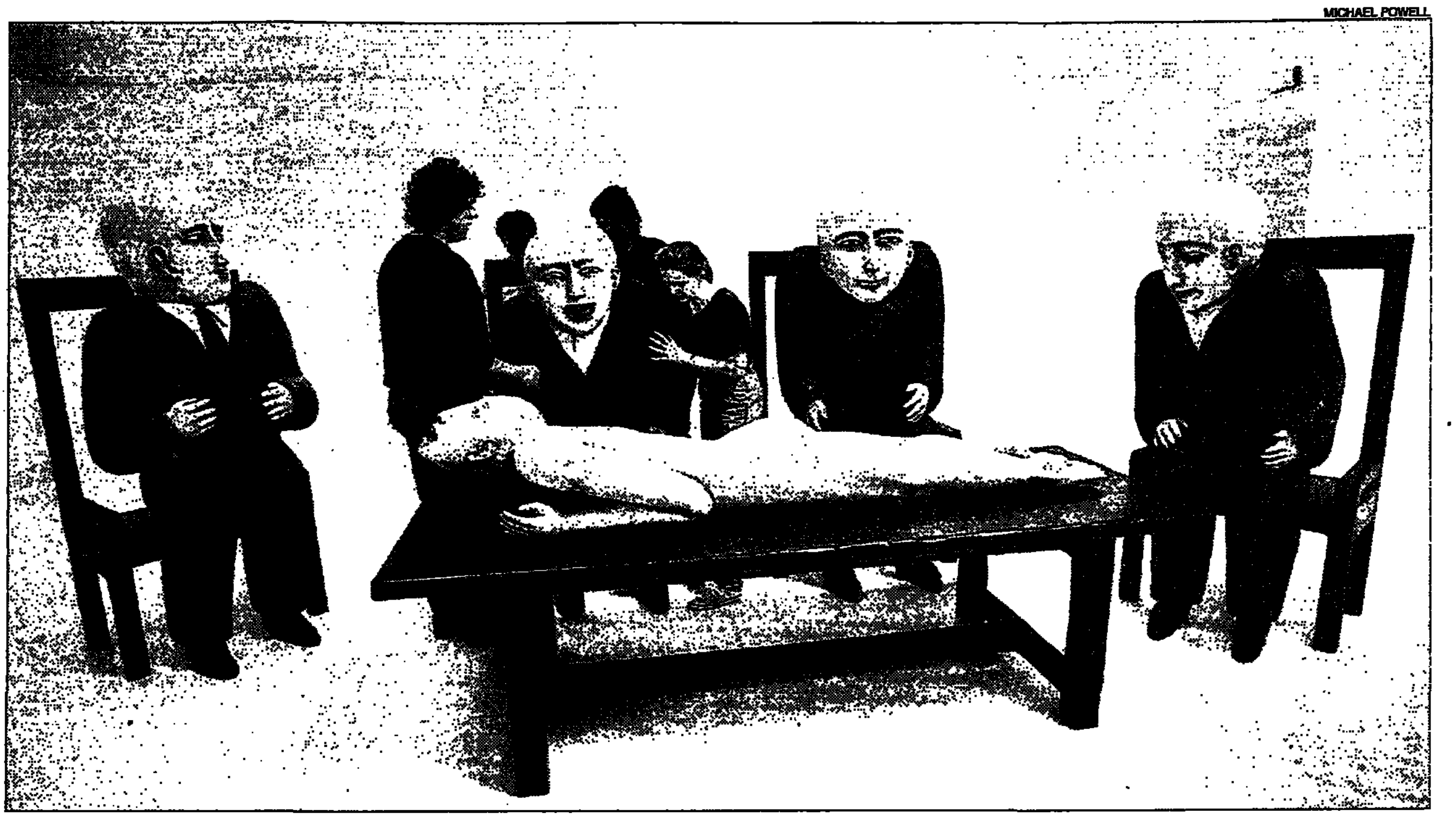
ROCK NEWS

- **Stevie Wonder** breezed in to London earlier this week, after helping Spike Lee promote his movie *Jungle Fever* at Cannes. Wonder composed the soundtrack for the film and at an unusual press conference he sat at a mocked-up bar chatting with an exceptionally well-informed "barman". Asked about the more extreme attitudes of rap acts such as NWA and Public Enemy (who supplied the music for Lee's *Do the Right Thing*) Wonder genially suggested that "some of it's a joke and some of it's too tacky to think of". Later he announced that he will not after all be running for mayor of Detroit. "God hasn't given me the feeling that I should get into that," he explained. "My platform is my songs." *Music From the Movie Jungle Fever* is released on Tuesday.
- The Heineken Music Big Top, a travelling festival, presents four days of music at Wollaton Park, Nottingham, from today until Monday. Acts featured include **Squeeze** (tonight); **Martin Stephenson & the Daintees** (tomorrow); **Alias Ron Kavana** (Sunday) and **Whycliffe** (Monday). Admission is free. Information line: 0898 222 459.
- **Iggy Pop**, the **Sisters Of Mercy** and **James** are the big names announced for this year's Reading Festival which takes place as usual over the August Bank Holiday (August 23-25). Also appearing are **Sonic Youth, The Fall, De La Soul** and others. Tickets are £40 for the weekend, including camping and car parking. Information: 0272 299008. Credit cards: 081-963 2474.

Galleries: Ana Maria Pacheco and two other women sculptors reviewed by **John Russell Taylor**

Fear on the menu at the carvery

MICHAEL POWELL


Man-as-meat? Ana Maria Pacheco's sculpture group *The Banquet* (which is seen here being installed at the Camden Arts Centre) has disturbing overtones of the Last Supper

If background counts, and it does, it can hardly be surprising that nearly all the images in **Ana Maria Pacheco's** sculptures, paintings and drawings have horror and violence lurking just beneath the surface. Such things can also be found in the work of British-born artists, of course. But for all the years Pacheco has spent here, her art seems still more redolent of the Brazil she left than the Britain in which she lives.

Yet Pacheco's art is not directly political: in that, probably, lies its strength. And maybe a degree of distance from South America was necessary before she was able to abstract the emotion and generalise or symbolise the facts of torture and sadistic fanaticism to produce art at once so terrifying and so pure.

The show at the Camden Arts Centre is the big retrospective she has needed for a decade now. Her latest sculptural group, *Man and his Sheep*, toured the country (without coming to London) last year, surrounded by related prints, drawings and sculptural studies, but this is the first time that the four major sculptures have been brought together. The effect is breathtaking. All of these groups are carved in wood, then painted or coloured in some other way: again, the prevalence of this medium in native Brazilian sculpture, sophisticated as well as naïve, must be relevant. But conveying the precise quality of these pieces is difficult, since the horrors are never quite on the surface, coming rather from the strange, menacing atmosphere that seems to be surrounding them.

In the earliest, *Some Exercise of Power*, two of her strange no-neck monster-men look down almost gleefully at a supine, naked figure of a man with mouth open and eyes closed. There is no overt indication of torture, but the overtones are unavoidable. The title *Acrobats* seems a fair description of the two men in circus costume suspended from a bar by their ankles — except that an association with carcasses of meat hanging in a cold-store forces itself on the spectator. These surely cannot be happy acrobats.

The man-as-meat implication is even more potent in the next piece, *The Banquet*, in which a group of seated, clothed people look with satisfaction — or can it be happy anticipation? — at another nude man, this time prone and looking up in something that might be supplication. There are disturbing overtones here of the Last Supper, which disturbingly recall that this, too, was also a kind of symbolic cannibal feast. In a world where cannibalism is usually regarded as a subject for black comedy, this brings us disquietingly near the real thing.

Finally, *Man and his Sheep* evokes a scene from some primitive festival. If it is Dionysian, as in Szymanowski's opera *King Roger*, it belongs to a much darker side of the cult. There are also suggestions of John the Baptist emerging from the desert: the sculpture's prophet-figure carries a strange ram's-head totem-pole, and is followed by a group of black-garbed peasant women with real teeth, sharp enough to inflict more than token damage.

So what are all these sculptures about? Almost anything the viewer cares to interpret them as, provided it is not comfortable or comforting. One thing is clear: they have their roots in the nastier aspects of the world we live in. Around them hangs a selection of Pacheco's prints and drawings, few without some incidental sado-masochistic detail, such as the wearing of constrictive masks or the apparent sewing together of lips. There are also several recent drawings, which seem to develop out of the John the Baptist view of *Man and his Sheep*, bringing together the scattered aspects of prophet and severed head to reach, logically, the story of Salome. These seem to be preparation for Pacheco's next major work, a cycle of large paintings on the subject of Salome and the decapitation of John the Baptist. What, in some, might seem merely traditionally decadent, in Pacheco promises applications well beyond the scope of the traditional interpretations.

> *The horrors are never quite on the surface, coming rather from the atmosphere that seems to surround them*

Two other sculptors who are often compared are concurrently receiving important shows of recent work. At the Yorkshire Sculpture Park **Sophie Ryder** is given what amounts to a first retrospective, and at the Watermans Arts Centre in Brentford **Nicola Hicks** is featured in the second of a programme of shows that Angela Flowers, a commercial gallery, is arranging and subsidising in partnership with this normally non-commercial space.

The two sculptors have several things in common. Most obviously, they both deal almost entirely in animal images, in sculptures, drawings and prints. They both attracted attention initially by the boldness and originality of their choice and handling of materials. Now both, possibly from the commercial desirability of being able to make editions of their works, have taken up the more conventional medium of bronze, with, in both cases, more conventional results. Sophie Ryder began by making three-dimensional cartoons out of free-hanging wire. Then with *Bear's Head* in 1981 she hit on her true form by weaving and knotting the shape, still out of wire. Most of her familiar pieces are life-size animals of amazing life-likeness, all made out of wire entanglements.

Here, the largest recent piece in this form is *Flock of Sheep*, which is so incredibly realistic that there is even a photograph of live lambs nuzzling optimistically at wire udders. Such a degree of naturalism might seem self-defeating, but the fascination comes from the strength of the illusion, even if one is aware of the artifice that has achieved it.

Ryder, too, has a darker side: some of her works have disturbing sexual overtones. Those in *Pink Lady Dancing with Big Brown Hare*, for example, are rather different from the frankly sexual images of horses mating. Compared with the wire pieces, the bronzes, though effective, are rather clunky.

The same could be said of Nicola Hicks's work: in bronze the animals become somehow less attention-catching, more like the acceptable but somehow uninspiring bronze animals of Elizabeth Frink. But when, as in *Sand Dream I* (the large kangaroo in painted plaster and straw that dominates the show at Watermans), she returns to the more dangerous, perishable materials in which she first made her name, the results are unique.

***Ana Maria Pacheco*. *Camden Arts* Centre, Arkwright Road, NW3 (071-435 2643). Tues-Thurs midday-8pm, Fri-Sun midday-6pm, until July 7.**

Sophie Ryder. Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Bretton Hall College, West Bretton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire (0924-830579). Daily 10am-6pm, until August 26.

Nicola Hicks. Watermans Arts Centre, 40 High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (081-847 5651). Mon-Sat 11am-8.30pm, Sun midday-6pm, until June 16.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Double Dutch treat is acoustic delight

The new Symphony Hall in Birmingham is evidently a versatile machine. This week the **Royal Concertgebouw**, conducted by **Riccardo Chailly**, was its first major visiting orchestra, and it revealed a quite different sound-room from the one opened last month by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. There was none of the spectacular pianissimo achieved then, but this programme did not call for such extremes.

What it did exhibit was the ballooning reverberation that is possible, without any loss of clarity: the positioning of the canopy over the musicians is obviously crucial. In Haydn's "Trauer" Symphony the effect was untoward; echoes of several seconds rolled like dust clouds after sharp attacks, and with a church-like coolness surrounded what is essentially chamber music, giving rather the impression of a very much smaller audience than in fact was present. But the sounds of Schoenberg's Opus 16 pieces, especially the magical blendings of the middle study, were at home in this enveloping space. And the long resonance gave a celebratory, outdoor air to Schumann's Second Symphony.

The Haydn and the Schumann also indicated what this orchestra has picked up from the period-style movement, perhaps from working with such conductors as Nikolaus Harnoncourt and Frans Brüggen. The strings used vibrato delicately, which produced a refreshing, icy zest when coupled with Chailly's admirably unforced but decisive forward motion (largely achieved by letting the counterpoint sing out clearly). In the rhythmically tricky Schumann scherzo, particularly, the clean feel was a tonic. It was also good to hear natural-sounding flute and oboe solos in this piece.

The pleasure of the Schoenberg performance was in the confident placing of everything, the conviction that every sound in the score can be beautiful. Chailly and the Concertgebouw move on to the Barbican, where they are to play Bruckner's Fifth Symphony this evening.

In exchange, Amsterdam will be receiving the **London Philharmonic** next week, conducted by the Concertgebouw's old chief, **Bernard Haitink**, in Mahler's Seventh Symphony, which they performed earlier this week in the Festival Hall. Haitink's sense of the way this music moves is majestically secure, even in the first movement, which he made seem an unlikely but just-stable house of cards built out of balancing misalliances.

Grand, steaming but ramshackle, this beginning opened the way for the controlled oddities Haitink unloosed in the middle movements. A note in the pocket score asserts that the central scherzo "has none of the ghostly characteristics of other Mahler scherzi", and describes it as "a droll dance". Haitink found differently.

The piece was full of outrages and uglinesses, but they were carefully judged to their context. Then in the finale, where any performance faces the problem that the work has spread so far that resolution is impossible, Haitink's firm, disciplined torrent came near persuading one that wholeness had been accomplished.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

REVIEWS, page 18
Henry VIII and Rock

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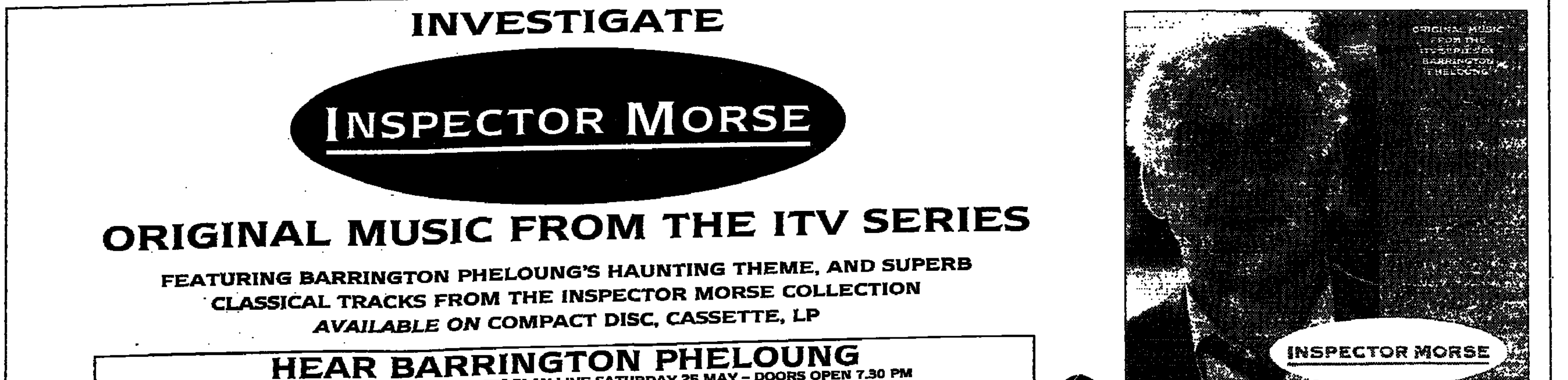
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CENTRAL

Ferocious dogs are spreading fear on the streets. But to deal with them we must root out a yobbish subculture, says **Janet Daley**

Tackle this panoply of terror

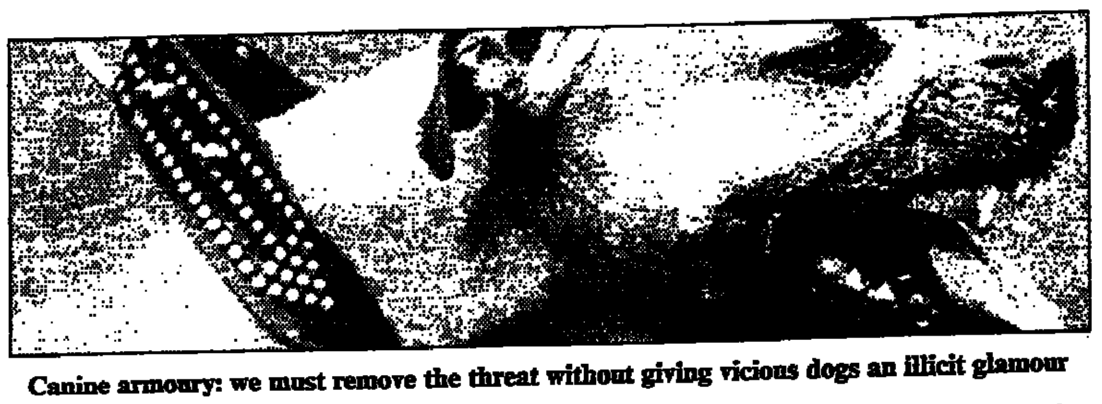
Will no one say the unsayable about the vicious dog furore? All the column inches and air time devoted to whether the animals or their owners are at fault have been remarkably euphemistic. A few broad hints have been dropped in the form of profiles of typical pit-bull fanciers, but no one seems prepared to utter the truth about this cult.

The function these dogs serve in the street culture of the inner cities has little to do with the traditional British conception of the beloved family pet. Dog lovers in the shires, now raising their voices against the mass slaughtering of many blameless animals, are likely to be quite naïve about this urban fashion.

Not to mince words, in many working-class areas the most notorious breeds of fighting dog have become part of a panoply of deliberate terror. They are used exhibitionistically both as weapons and as talismans of threat. Alsatians used to serve this purpose but they have been superseded by the more spectacular imports, the possession of which has now become emblematic of "street cred" in the desolate no-go areas of Britain's worst council estates.

Walking the streets at all has become a gesture of bravado in the most dangerous inner city areas. Benign pedestrian life as it was known until the Fifties has virtually disappeared as a part of urban experience. The redesign of working-class neighbourhoods into concrete wastelands, combined with the car culture which depopulates the pavements after dark, makes walkways and open spaces adventure playgrounds for roving delinquents.

A gang of noisily aggressive youths promenading with their consort of dogs is as terrifying a vision as city life has to offer. The prospect of such encounters keeps the residents of many neighbourhoods and estates confined to their barricaded homes. What was left of wholesome working-class street life is being terrorised into oblivion by yob culture. And the fashion for fighting dogs is one of its most effective accoutrements.



Canine armoury: we must remove the threat without giving vicious dogs an illicit glamour

Getting rid of the dogs would be tantamount to disarming a myriad of private armies, which would be a good thing in itself. But if banning these breeds and threatening them with annihilation resulted in their becoming glamorously illicit, there would be little improvement in the lives of those who now feel threatened. How many neighbours would dare to report an illegally kept dog, knowing the reprisals likely to follow? There is a danger that the forbidden dog fad would go underground, like video nasties, and become even more symbolic of delinquent solidarity.

Whatever short-term policy is pursued on this issue, it offers an opportunity to have a hard look at what is festering in the most deprived and brutalised corners of our cities which should not be missed. We cannot grapple with the reality of gratuitous violence, a subculture obsessed with sexual sadism, and the takeover of the streets by juvenile thugs (with or without their canine armoury) if we look at each aspect in isolation as it surfaces.

Talk about whether legal pressure can be put on owners to appreciate the dangers and behave more "responsibly" is typical of the cant that arises from a failure to address the pattern as a whole. These dogs are not bought thoughtlessly. They are prized precisely because they invoke terror. Deprived of them (as they certainly should be by one means or another), their owners will find alternative means of striking fear into their neighbours.

Politicians and pundits engage in endless discussion about the inner cities without directly confronting the inbred degradation which is destroying the quality of life at their heart. Labour's glossy, market-researched document on London, released this week, scarcely touches on the subject of sink council estates and the bizarre tribal rites that their social isolation encourages. This may reflect an embarrassed recognition that socialist public housing policy must take a good deal of the historical credit for this horror.

To be fair, the early paternalists could not have envisaged that segregation by class, especially when accomplished by authoritarian directive, would have such a devastating effect on self-esteem. Now we know. The destruction by social engineering of a self-respecting, self-controlling community life was the critical mistake of post-war politics. The real challenge of the urban future is how to break this cycle of bravura machismo, which is reinforced by the coercive social pressure of the streets, now emptied of almost every morally healthy constraining influence. Coming to terms with it will require more than the destruction of dangerous dogs.

Philip Howard

Prejudice is more than a word

Sexual and racial harassment have always gone on at work, as well as non-specific varieties of bullying. But now we are more aware of them, and less inclined to find them amusing. The world has improved in the past century in that racialism and sexism and ageism and the rest of them are widely perceived as offensive rather than natural. Of course the world is still full of prejudice against other people. You do not change human nature and human ignorance by the whim of the high-minded. But at least most people who make blatantly sexist or racist remarks today are aware that somebody might object, and make their remarks defiantly or sotto voce or slyly. We have taken a step down the road to recognising that a man's a man for a' that, whatever his colour and race, and even if he is a woman.

There is a danger that we are pitying the plumage but forgetting the dying bird. We are so zealous to detect the motes of discrimination in our language that we neglect the real discrimination that exists in the cities and workplaces and boardrooms.

Words are as slippery as a creel of fresh mackerel. Some American blacks now want to be called blacks, as a matter of racial pride, a word that has replaced the term Afro-American, which replaced negroes, which replaced coloured, which replaced darkies, which replaced blacks. Some New York homosexuals want to revert to being called queer, instead of the more cheerful and neutral gay. But you cannot cure the sins of the world by sanitising the language. In these times of linguistic police, it is dangerous even to open one's mouth or punch a key on the VDU. The Multicultural Management Program Fellows, a press-gang or group of American journalists, have published a *Dictionary of Cautionary Words and Phrases*, intended to help us to write prose with no offence in it.

Some of the advice is perfectly sensible. Woman is the preferred term for a female adult. Girl is appropriate only for those 17 years old and under. Avoid derogatory terms for women, such as skirt, broad, chick, bimbo, bumbo, babe, ball and chain, and little woman.

There is the same sensitivity about racial stereotypes. "Avoid any word, description, or phrase that contributes to the stereotypes of black males as strictly athletic, well proportioned, or having high sexual drives and exaggerated sex organs." As for the old: "Do not use senior citizen for anyone under 65. In general, avoid ageism by giving ages only where relevant. . . Do not use dirty old man, codger, coot, geezer, silver fox, old-timers, Pop, old buzzard. Blue-haired or blue-rinse brigade is objectionable when used to characterise old people."

Much of this is good manners and common sense, but some of the words now being labelled as racist or offensive fall over the edge into absurdity. It is now deemed abusive to talk about a Dutch treat or going Dutch, because this might suggest that the Dutch are stingy (quite the reverse, in my experience). This usage goes back to the English wars with the Dutch, like Dutch courage, Dutch nightingales (frogs), and a Dutch concert (a hullabaloo). Dear is apparently objectionable as a term of endearment, which is bad news for those of us who use dear boy and dear girls as substitutes while we search our memories for names lost in the mists of myopia. Beefcake and burly are offensive epithets for men, implying that they are thick, and strident feminists don't like being called barracudas. Come to notice it, "strident" is a word used to put women in their place.

There is no cure to human prejudice in reforming the language. It is attitudes that make the language offensive. The fault, dear brutes, is not in our words, but in our attitudes. Arthur Ashe was addressing the Association of Tennis Professionals, and paused to search for the right word to describe a controversial new rule. "Come on, Arthur," came a voice from the floor, "don't be afraid to call a spade a spade." And Ashe and his friends fell about laughing, because there was no offence in the offensive word.

Lloyd's goes up the spout

Bernard Levin deplores the shortsighted chutzpah of the insurance 'names' who close their eyes and jump

I am a loyal, even a fervent, supporter of the capitalist system, but I do sometimes wonder why it seems to be organised, led and operated exclusively by numbskulls, dunces, boobies, dingbats, rattlepates, wallies and jobbernowls (to name but a few).

This *catalogue raisonné* has recently acquired a new and exciting justification. It seems that Lloyd's of London, no less, may shortly be up the spout. Before I turn to these new and greener fields, I must revisit old haunts.

You may remember the tremendous lark initiated by the Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, and followed by many other municipalities; the wheeze concerned "put and call options". It worked like this: the council would find a man with a kind face, give him all the money in the Town Hall, and send him to the Casino at Deauville, there to put the lot on No 36. Meanwhile, the banks, convinced that the lucky number was 17, put their all on it, only to be dismayed, along with the councillors, when 22 came up.

I didn't half laugh when the House of Lords ruled that the entire jollification was unlawful from the start, so that the banks which operated the game for the councils are stuck with a deficit of something over half a billion quid. But since predicting what would happen needed no greater prescience than a half-grown amoeba could have supplied, I shall not mourn for them, not even when the impending lawsuits begin, though these will not be finished until the next century but three.

There have been some enchanting reactions. The banks, led by the Bank of England itself, demanded relief in the form of retrospective legislation validating the unlawful lottery; well, there are many instructive examples of the Jewish word *chutzpah* (eg, the youth who murdered his parents and asked for lenience from the court because he was an orphan), but the banks have now provided a new one, viz, throw away hundreds of million pounds (Hammersmith and Fulham alone used 16,000,000 tenners to light their gas fires with) and then ask the poor dazed ratepayers to cough up. Sir Nicholas Goodison, who is president of the British Bankers' Association (if I were president of the British Bankers' Association I would do the job by stealth, and blush to find it fame), said that the government's refusal to comply with the *chutzpadik* (adjectival form) claim was "very regrettable", and he added "I believe it will do great long-term damage to London's standing in international financial markets".

I should damned well hope so; if losing half a billion through nothing but stupendous incompetence doesn't damage London's international financial markets, what will? Or did the banks suppose that the municipal clowns playing Monopoly would provide a profit? But this leads me to Lloyd's, where, instead of *ringing* the Lutine Bell, they are seeking, as yet unsuccessfully, a pawnbroker soft-hearted enough to give them a fiver on it till pay day.

There was a number of massive frauds at Lloyd's some years back; it got so serious that legislation was required to tidy the place up. But if tidying up was the worst problem Lloyd's faced today, there would be marzipan on every doorknob in the building. No, when our Sunday sister comes out with two separate detailed predictions of collapse, one headed "Lloyd's must reform or die" and the other "Thousands risk ruin as disasters hit Lloyd's", it is time to show a face of concern or rub our hands with glee, whichever shall seem the more appropriate.

It is the old story that runs through so many of Britain's activities: somnolent leaders, promoted beyond their ability, fail to notice that the nature of the trade has changed. Take a tiny but representative phrase, from the *Sunday Times* coverage of the Lloyd's story: "Born out of Britain's dominance of the world's oceans, Lloyd's has never adjusted to the decline of the merchant fleet, and to the huge shifts that have occurred in the insurance market."

If that is what has happened, it is not surprising that an expert in these matters said Lloyd's "is beyond redemption, killed by changing markets, competition and the incompetence of the people who run it". Move on to the evidence; there are "Names" (which is what members of Lloyd's syndicates are called), in one syndicate, each of whom has £30,000 staked, and each of whom may shortly be asked — politely, I am sure — for £750,000, to pay a claim. Another such syndicate, with 570 members, faces a loss of £80 million; a moment with a calculator reveals that every member could be asked to divvy up £140,000. It seems that Lloyd's annual losses for the most recent accounts will come to some £150 million, at which you may gasp. Gasp on; the figure predicted for the following year's deficit is a cool *billion*.

So what happened? Three things; two old and one new. For one of the two familiar horrors we need look no further than the goings-on at Lloyd's over the Feltrim syndicates, in which the Names (there are 2,000 of them) have committed themselves, to their surprise and dismay, to paying out £320 million from assets amounting to roughly one fifty-eighth of that sum. The Council of Lloyd's has just agreed to bolt the door on horses which have long ago fled, leaving no forwarding address; Lloyd's is to set up a special investigation to enquire into the hitherto unsuspected news that twice two makes a sum almost exactly halfway between three and five.

Nobody, it seems, heard the whole caboodle going glug-glug-glug; nor did anyone notice that the principle of unlimited liability (on which Lloyd's has always rested) is, in modern conditions, a highway to inevitable disaster. (That reminds me: the Feltrim group specialised in "catastrophe reinsurance".) The trouble, as far as I can see, is that Lloyd's assumed that the worst possible claim would be a joint one consisting of the simultaneous sinking of the Queen Mary and the burning down of the Mansion House. Neither of these shocking events took place, but Lloyd's failed to notice, amid the toasts to these notable structures, that the Savings and Loans scheme in the United States had collapsed, leaving Lloyd's with a claim of *two and a half billion pounds*.

Columbus discovered America and Lloyd's mislaid it. Vast claims for pollution damage have been pouring in from across the Atlantic; my expert says that over the next 20 years claims concerning pollution and allied matters may climb as high as $100 billion. Bad luck, fellows. But how much of it *was* bad luck, and how much complacency? I return to the words of the source who broke the story to *The Sunday Times*: "Everyone in Lloyd's is in despair," he said; "The place is fundamentally bust, and unless it changes it won't exist in five years'."

"Lloyd's must reform or die", said the headline which started me off. As one who regards Lloyd's as an elegant form of gambling, I must say I don't greatly mind which course is finally chosen. Anyway, why not both?

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

Regret percolated the voice of James Smith & Sons. Not of all of them, only of the member who answers the telephone to enquirers after swordsticks, but I have little doubt that he spoke for the entire family.

Whether that regret was the craftsman's or the businessman's, I could not say, but it was very likely compounded of both. If you have been knocking out bespoke concealed weapons to the carriage trade since 1830 and the Home Office suddenly sends you a note telling you to pack it in, what upper lip, however professionally stiff, could forbear to tremble?

"We have not", said the Smith, "been allowed to manufacture or supply swordsticks since 1988. I'm most awfully sorry, sir."

Me too. Up until that moment, I had been congratulating myself on a brilliant solution to our present problems. It had suddenly come to me at Monday lunchtime, and it had brought with it a simultaneous recollection of that beautifully calligraphed New Oxford Street façade, where the extravagant Victorian curlicues boasting the manufacture of every conceivable stick and umbrella do not merely advertise a service, but conjure up glowing lantern slides to the plangent plunk of barrel organs. The mere word "swordstick" is enough to put a dark alley in the head, and a tall toppered cove in the alley, and a monocle in his eye, and a dress-cane swinging in his hand as he hurries towards his tryst at the Gaiety's stage-door; and suddenly, upon the brick wall, the moon throws the shadow of a footpad's upswung knobkerrie, and the tall cove wheels and flicks his hand, and this time the moonlight does its stuff along the rapier blade . . .

Just the job for Clitterhouse Park, I thought last Monday. Tickety-boo for Hampstead Heath. *De rigueur* for Primrose Hill, and all those other greenfield sites where I took the constitutional plods about which I had been growing daily more dubious and upon which Monday's *One O'Clock News* had put the tin lid.

"There is not much you can do," said the RSPCA man, "except wear fortified leather sleeves and heavy boots, attempt to get the dog to lock its jaws on your arm, and then drag it where you can get help. You might also carry a small metal bar to prise its jaws apart. Then try to get a wall between you and the dog, or climb a tree, or . . ."

He then went on to talk about third party insurance, which is where he lost me. The picture of myself standing in Clitterhouse Park with a pit-bull depending from my seeping forearm while I exchanged policy details with a bloke in a studded collar was even more nerve-racking than the ones of me dragging a wall between myself and a dobermann, shinning up a tree in my new heavy boots, or trying to insinuate a spanner between the molars of a feral rottweiler.

Before the current crisis, I had, like most urban strollers, given less thought to what dogs might do than to what they had already done. In fact, the heavy boot was the one item I avoided wearing, since there is little to less look forward to than coming home from the park and chiselling its detritus out of rutted soles and heels. That apart, I like dogs, and rather enjoy it when they take me for a kindred spirit and bound up to me for a spot of fun. However, the growing risk that what they are bounding up to me for is a spot of lunch has changed all that. Recently, I have been carrying a walking-stick, and had felt fairly secure until the RSPCA man said that it was useless: you could flail at a clamped pit-bull till Doomsday, but it would not let go until it had sorted out that doom to its own satisfaction. It was even as I took this on board that it came to me that there were walking-sticks *and there were walking-sticks*. What I needed was a fortified whangee, which, at the first sign of an hors d'oeuvred forearm, could be unsheathed and stuck where it would do most good.

But the Home Secretary will not allow it. What could I do until what he does allow starts to take the effect it probably won't have? I put this to the Smith. "We could sell you an alpenstock," he suggested. "It has a pointed steel ferrule."

"Is it sharp enough?" I enquired.

Did you know you can hear discreet smiles on telephones?

"I'm sure something could be arranged," he said.

THE TIMES DIARY

One more week's interest

The restoration of diplomatic links between Albania and Britain, announced this week, was almost scuppered by a furious row between the Treasury and the foreign office over the question of Albanian gold in the Bank of England. The reconcilation between the two countries after a rift of almost half a century was due to be announced with a great fanfare earlier this month when the Albanian prime minister, Fatos Nano, and foreign minister Muhamet Kapellani were in London for talks with the European Bank, but neither party had anticipated the intransigence of the Treasury, in the shape of chief secretary David Mellor.

As part of the carefully negotiated diplomatic deal, Albania had agreed to drop its long-standing demand that Britain return £18 million of gold languishing in the Bank of England's reserves. Britain had retained the gold as a bargaining counter for compensation for the British lives lost when two navy destroyers were sunk by mines in the Corfu Channel in 1946.

The junior foreign office minister Douglas Hogg was delighted with the Albanian change of heart, and pencilled in Monday of last week for the ceremony. But with the foreign secretary Douglas Hurd out of the country, Treasury hardliners, led by Mellor, had other ideas. Pulling rank on Hogg, Mellor insisted on compensation before the agreement was signed. So the announcement was delayed and the ceremony cancelled.

When Hurd returned, however, he was furious that the Treasury had attempted to override his decision, and the Treasury in turn was overruled: hence this week's announcement.

● *Skipping is not a sport, and that's official. For 25 years Albert Rayner (world record holder with 128 skips in 10 seconds) has campaigned to have it recognised as such. Now the Sports Council has ruled that skipping is merely "an aid to fitness" rather than a sporting activity in its own right. But Britain is out of step: millions of Japanese belong to skipping clubs, and America has suggested that skipping be included in the Olympic Games.*

Show of spoils

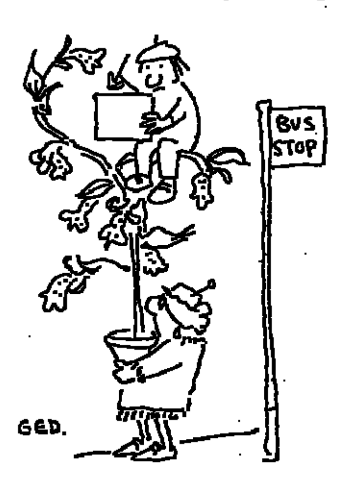
The Imperial War Museum has presented the Ministry of Defence with a shopping list of items for a planned Gulf war display. Next month the museum will mount its first exhibition since the war, consisting of a collection of previously unseen photographs of the conflict by photographer Mike Moore.

However, few of the other items that the museum had hoped to be offered for its permanent display by Gulf veterans have materialised. General Sir Peter de la Billiere has donated his desert uniform, John Major has given the captured Iraqi Kalashnikov which was presented to him, and the Israeli civil defence authorities have provided some gasmasks. The response is described as "patchy" by Dr Christopher Dowling of the museum. "We have a Desert Storm valentine card sent by a soldier to this wife in Germany," he adds, as an example of the kind of material they are after.

Its director, Dr Alan Borg, has asked the ministry for items of captured Iraqi equipment, including a tank, artillery pieces and uniforms. The ministry has had similar requests from other institutions, but so much Iraqi equipment was captured that curators are optimistic that all their demands can be met. Only the battle in the air is likely to present problems when it comes to museum exhibits. "We may have to make do with some Scud fragments from Israel," says Dowling.

Last blooms

When the peonies and pergolas are packed up when the Chelsea Flower Show ends today, one permanent record of its splendours will remain: a meticulous botanical illustration of this year's prize-winning orchid. Even in this high-tech age, the artistry of brush and pen is satisfyingly superior to the camera when it comes to capturing the beauty of a prize bloom. The Royal Horticultural Society's official illustrator, Cherry-Anne Lavrih, has been at Chelsea this week drawing the orchids, which have become an RHS speciality. Across London, Kew Gardens has no fewer than 13 full-time illustrators beavering away. "There's an urgency to our work at Kew," says a spokesman, "because we're working against time to record these species before many of them become extinct."



One more divide

Peter Brooke's talks on the future of Northern Ireland may be making slow progress, but not as slow as the House of Commons standing committee on Northern Ireland which this week managed to hold its first meeting in six years. At its last gathering a junior whip called John Major was among its 42 members.

"Logistical reasons" are cited for the delay in reconvening but even when the committee did finally meet, it was apparently uninterested in Brooke's initiative. Instead it spent the time discussing equal opportunities for Catholics, Protestants and Muslims. Yes, Muslims. To the outrage of both sides of the sectarian divide in the Christian community, a company in John Taylor's Strangford constituency insists on employing only Shias.

● *The curse of Gazza's knee strikes again. Only days after Gascoine's Wembley injury, the Tory MP Charles Goodison-Wickes has damaged his anterior cruciate ligament. The Wimbledon MP made the headlines earlier this year as the first MP in 45 years to see active service, with the medical corps in the Gulf. He survived that experience unscathed, but the real tennis court at Lords did for him, and he is about to enter hospital for an NHS operation. He thinks it unlikely that his value has dropped by anything like £8 million.*

هكذا من الأصل

PAYING OVER THE TOP

The argument that broke out this week about top people's pay is not a storm in a teacup. If the government's exhortatory incomes policy, often repeated by the prime minister, the Chancellor and the governor of the Bank of England is about anything, it is about fairness. Fairness is indivisible.

Economists studying wealth distribution used to conclude that, short of winning the pools, people in Britain could only become rich through inheritance or personal enterprise. But in the past decade private-sector salaries for top directors have become comparable with those abroad. Chief executives earn 62 per cent more in real terms than they did a decade ago. The pay rise of 16.9 per cent to the governor of the Bank of England last year suggests that the public sector does not intend to be left out.

Robin *Leigh-Pemberton's* rise was set nearly two years ago, but must make his recent pleas for pay restraint seem hypocritical. He claimed yesterday that the increase to £155,000 was justified as it followed two years of rises averaging 4 per cent. But the year before that, he won a 22.9 per cent increase, when inflation was 5 per cent.

Just as spurious is the *comparison* between Mr Leigh-Pemberton's salary and that paid to clearing bank chairmen. The governor of the Bank of England makes up in prestige and security what he may lose in salary. A job such as his was once regarded as a mark of the nation's respect. It was undertaken in a spirit of public service, receiving the establishment's customary rewards of peerage, quango membership, college headship and indexed pension. It is simply incredible for the Bank's spokesmen now to imply that nobody will do this job because a salary well over £100,000 implies comparative poverty.

In America, the difference between the private sector and public service is still understood. Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Fed, earns £75,000, less than half Mr Leigh-Pemberton. He used to earn several million dollars a year in consultancy. Jacques de Larosière, governor of the Bank of France, earns two-thirds of his British opposite number. Only Karl-Otto Pöhl, of the Bundesbank, earns more (about £200,000). Is this what is meant by monetary convergence?

From both public and private sectors, a whiff of croneyism is emerging. The pay of top managers both at the Bank and in most public companies is determined by "remuneration committees" of non-executive directors. Because they are usually executive directors of other private-sector companies, and are often appointed by the chairman himself, they seem impelled by considerations of loyalty and solidarity to maintain a structure of corporate remuneration that bears little relation to corporate performance or to differentials with staff lower down the hierarchy.

The chairman and chief executive of Rolls Royce last year won rises of 21 and 27 per cent while earnings per share dipped by 35 per cent and employees were being laid off. The chief executive of Royal Insurance (which lost £187 million last year) saw his pay rise by 20 per cent. Directors of Britain's largest companies had pay rises averaging 22.7 per cent, according to the Institute of Management and Remuneration Economics.

These managers do not own their own companies. They are employees. Why are the shareholders not squealing? One reason is that the shareholders are often represented by pension and insurance companies whose own senior staff have proved beneficiaries of the same inflation of directorial salaries. Such rises may have been justified in the 1980s when share prices and profits were rising too. Now those profits are falling, pay should begin to fall as well.

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes? If the big shareholders will not act, then the small shareholder must. They should vote against the re-election of greedy directors. The government, as owner of the Bank of England, could do the same. Shareholders of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your overpaid chairman.

SONIA GANDHI'S GOOD SENSE

Sonia Gandhi has discomfited power-brokers in the Congress (I) party by declining to be drafted as its president, an offer they arrogantly believed she could not refuse. She has done India a service in refusing a job for which her only qualification, according to the party's spokesman, was that "she is a wife in the household of the Gandhi-Nehru family".

Seldom have short-term political calculations been more nakedly expressed. With Sonia as president, her husband's party might well have garnered more of the 306 seats on which voting has been postponed to next month. Her acceptance would have deferred an unedifying battle for the party's leadership until after the elections. But precisely because these were too obviously the sole reasons for conscripting her for the job, her acceptance would have done little to rebuild voters' respect for India's increasingly discredited political class.

India has never been in greater need of strong and stable government. The secular ideal, Nehru's most important legacy, is at risk from Hindu fundamentalism. Conflict between castes has been responsible for much of the electoral violence preceding Rajiv Gandhi's assassination. Direct rule from Delhi can offer no long-term answer to separatist insurgencies in Punjab, Assam and Kashmir or to regional resentments elsewhere of the central government's powers. But even an absolute majority for Congress (I) would not have guaranteed firm and imaginative leadership. Nor, the elections over, could the Gandhi name alone have worked magic.

Had Rajiv Gandhi lived, and won outright, he would have found it hard to unite the party behind the difficult new departures in economic policy, and concessions to regional demands for more autonomy, which have become imperative. His inexperienced widow would have been still more at the mercy of powerful vested interests. A break with the Nehru-Gandhi dynasty may be what it takes to force the factions to unite behind new leadership — and new policies.

The Gandhi name might have helped unite the secular parties against the Hindu revivalist challenge mounted by the Bharatiya Janata party. But as Rajiv Gandhi himself realised, India needs to break with the two other legacies bequeathed by Nehru: the stifling web of state control over trade, production and employment which lie at the root of corruption in business and public life; and the centralisation of economic decision-making in Delhi.

Without radical reforms on the first front, India cannot hope for clean government, whoever is in power: the system operates by corruption. Without real devolution of power to the states (and to the private sector), India will become ever more ungovernable. For both political and economic reasons, Delhi must shed responsibility.

Economic virtue may be forced upon the new government by the need for fresh foreign loans. India's debt has quadrupled in the past decade, to around £47 billion, and its foreign exchange reserves have run dry. Money will not be forthcoming until the new government draws up a budget which makes drastic cuts in public spending, including subsidies. That cannot be done without extensive privatisation and deregulation.

Political virtue will be harder to come by: a switch to a looser federal system is against Delhi's political culture. Patronage is deeply embedded. *But if Sonia Gandhi holds to her* refusal to be associated with the latest and most cynical exercise in patronage, she will have set a principled example.

AMEN TO PATERNOSTER

The latest plans for Paternoster Square in the City of London deserve to succeed. The history of the redevelopment of the site immediately north of St Paul's Cathedral has mirrored the history of postwar British architecture. Heavily bombed in the war, the original street pattern of Georgian and Victorian commercial buildings was replaced with a decked "comprehensive development" by Lord Holford in 1967. Despite being more modest and respectful of pedestrians and visitors than, for instance, the neighbouring Barbican, Holford's group of buildings has never been popular. What should replace it?

Plans five years ago suggested a new development with yet another comprehensive approach. The plan and most of the buildings remained in the Modernist tradition and incurred the wrath of the Prince of Wales, reflecting public aversion to a stylistically exhausted form of urban renewal. Since Paternoster is one of the first big 1960s schemes to come forward for replacement, the outcome *is significant* for cities across Britain.

An alternative, Classical scheme was put forward in 1987 by the architect John Simpson. This played an important role in showing that the planning process need not be led by the development industry but could choose the styles as well as the uses of building in ordering renewal. Simpson's vision was of Georgian facades, arches and shopfronts, with narrow streets and enclosed spaces in the lee of the great cathedral. Both plan and counter-plan proved abortive.

The proposal unveiled yesterday by the new developers, Greycoat and Park Tower, is clearly based on the Simpson vision (see page 20). The rapprochement between classicism and property development could hardly be more dramatic — or more welcome. With Simpson as masterplanner, a number of modern British and overseas architects have been asked to design individual buildings: Terry Farrell, Robert Adam, Quinlan Terry, Allan Greenberg, Simpson himself. As Sir Norman Foster's original scheme for King's Cross was a museum to the Modernist school on an appropriately open site, so here is a gallery of Classicism in the shadow of one of Europe's most magnificent Renaissance buildings.

While Prince Charles is known to be worried by the density of the proposal — five storeys rising to nine storeys away from the cathedral — it is not overpowering and is splendidly relieved by a piazza and profusion of facades, variations on an overall theme. This is the heart of a modern city and needs to be dense. The development must also pay — the first Simpson scheme was regarded as unviable — and requires costly materials and finishes for its effect.

Britain's notoriously dilatory planning system must not spin out this saga much longer. Delay, public consultation and reconsideration have certainly yielded a vastly improved scheme. There must come a time for decision. This is an exciting addition to London's landscape, a fitting replacement for what was destroyed in the war. The existing Paternoster Square should be written off as an aberration. London can now begin to recover its self-confidence.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Keeping London wheels moving

From Mr Nigel Seymer

Sir, Your proposed "minimalist version of a London authority", which you commend to Mr Heseltine (leading article, May 21) consists of a "single elected mayor plus a senate composed of borough representatives". Its function would be liaising between the boroughs and other bodies, "notably in matters of transport and development planning".

Except for the mayor (which might make all the difference) we already have such a body: the London Boroughs Association (LBA). It has just produced an excellent report on what should be done about global warming, but it lacks the clout of its Washington equivalent, the Council of Governments (COG).

COG is responsible for strategic thinking about transport and development planning. As an example of its influence, it has persuaded the Washington authorities, including the two state governments concerned, of the efficacy of its programme of "demand management" — involving facilitation of car and minibus pools and introduction of preferential lanes on radial motorways — as a means of solving traffic problems.

This programme can be regarded as an alternative to road pricing and one that is more egalitarian. And it works. Yet my efforts to get ministers and civil servants to take an interest in it has reminded me of the Duke of Plaza Toro, who "led his regiment from behind — he found it less exciting".

But over and beyond such methods for better use of roads and motorways, the new authority should develop a genuine policy recognising the link between development and transport demand. Docklands have provided an awful example of the lack of such recognition at the right time.

It seems inevitable that any massive new development in central London such as that planned for the railway lands at King's Cross will exacerbate congestion. Department of Transport planners gave evidence to this effect to the House of Commons committee that handled the relevant bill. So how can that department conscientiously allow that to happen?

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL SEYMER
(Transport planning consultant),
63 Esmond Road, W4.
May 22.

Too young to fight?

From Lord Harvington

Sir, I read (report, May 17) of a recommendation by a Commons committee that young men under 18 should not be sent on active service overseas.

Jack Cornwell won the VC at Jutland in May 1916 and was the pride of our nation. He was killed in that action. He was sixteen.

Yours faithfully,
HARVINGTON,
House of Lords.

From his Honour Anthony Babington

Sir, Michael Evans's piece, "Glorious past of boy soldiers who went to fight" (May 17), brings to mind the shocking way in which one of them was treated.

In February 1916 a young soldier in a north country regiment was tried by field general court martial in France on two charges of desertion. It emerged at the trial that he had enlisted at the age of 16, pretending that he was 18. He had joined his battalion in the British Expeditionary Force when he was 17 and had deserted after eight months, largely spent on the western front. He was recaptured and escaped from the guardroom for a brief spell of liberty because he had heard that deserters were usually shot.

The court sentenced him to death with a recommendation to mercy "on the grounds of his extreme youth". Sir Douglas Haig, the commander-in-chief, refused to grant a reprieve. The young soldier had his 18th birthday while he was awaiting the promulgation of the sentence. Two months later he was shot by a firing squad.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY BABINGTON,
Thydon Cottage, Chilham,
Canterbury, Kent.
May 17.

Rationing nitrogen

From Mr Oliver Walston

Sir, The theory of a nitrogen ration, as proposed by Mr Hugh Oliver-Bellasis (report, May 14, early editions), is superficially attractive. In practice, however, it is unworkable. Not only would each individual farm have to be allocated an arbitrary ration, but imports would also have to be strictly controlled to prevent any surplus finding its way round the system.

Even if the ration books themselves were not transferable, a black market would inevitably develop between hill farmers who found it more profitable to sell nitrogen and arable farmers desperate to increase their fertilisers.

Yet if the problems of enforcing this ration in the UK are difficult, they are simple compared to those faced by other EC governments who would be expected to monitor the millions of minute farms scattered throughout southern Europe.

Not content with this impractical idea, the farmers proposing this scheme also want still more financial compensation in return for decreasing their output.

It is, unfortunately, an example of what is wrong with agriculture today that so much effort goes into devising ever more ingenious schemes for diverting taxpayers' money to farmers.

Mr Oliver-Bellasis and the NFU should worry less about where their subsidies will come from and instead concentrate on preparing their farms for the inevitable day when we find ourselves responding to real market forces in the real world rather than trying to support an unsupportable common agricultural policy.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER WALSTON,
Thriplow Farm,
Thriplow, Cambridge.
May 15.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

A new vision for public services

From the Deputy General Secretary of the TGWU

Sir, Mr Major's comments during the Monmouth by-election, as well as his recent speeches, have been interpreted as an attempt to steal Labour's clothes, but he is not so much stealing Labour's policies as borrowing their language. He talks about improved quality and accountability, yet his government is committed to maintaining and extending exactly those policies that have undermined both.

He talks of fair competition to deliver a quality service. His government then ensures competition biased in favour of the private sector and based on what is cheapest, not what is best.

Imagine the dilemma of a local authority. Contract compliance is all but outlawed so that fly-by-night contractors can undercut already low rates of pay. Department of Environment rules for compulsory competitive tendering — a "contractor's charter" — discriminate against direct labour. And Whitehall constraints on local expenditure force local authorities to specify in invitations to tender a lower standard of service, simply to save money for other purposes, for example, to avoid being poll-tax capped.

The result, demonstrated by a survey in April, published by the public services privatisation research unit, of 1,600 local authority contracts, is that private companies are four times more likely than council workforces to have problems in delivering services and five times more likely to have their contract terminated prematurely.

Mine is not simply a plea for more resources, although more are needed. *I want to see a real debate on* nothing less than the reconstruction of Britain's ailing public services. The old producer-dominated culture must be replaced, but not with wholesale privatisation or born-again managers applying the ethics of the supermarket to the NHS.

Britain needs a new consumer-led public services culture. The Beveridge settlement must be replaced by services that listen and respond to collective and individual requirements. The 90s should be about innovation and pluralism, not a clash of dogmas.

The test should be simple: does it work, and is it fair — above all, for the consumer, but also for employees? Quality treatment of employees is central to the delivery of a quality services.

Mr Major and his government fail the test because they are blinded by ideology. For a real vision for the public services we must look elsewhere: to pioneering local authorities like York and Islington; to a union like mine, whose public services trade group *is* promoting employee involvement in improving the services our members provide; and to the Labour party, whose fearlessness in criticising the old and ideas for a new quality culture are both welcome and refreshing.

Yours faithfully,
BILL MORRIS,
Deputy General Secretary,
Transport and General
Workers Union,
Transport House, Smith Square,
Westminster, SW1.
May 20.

Soviet emigration

From Ms Naomi Cohen

Sir, It is not surprising that opposition within the Soviet parliament to the emigration bill was based on fears of a brain-drain and excuses of exorbitant cost (reports, May 14, 21; leader, May 21). It would however have been a most pleasant surprise if its passage had been delayed in order to bring the bill in line with *international law.*

Now passed into Soviet law, this fifth draft of the bill still fails to comply either with the Soviet Union's international obligations or with minimum standards of international law.

In its restriction of emigration on the ground of state secrecy as opposed to state security, in its application of an indefinite and unspecified extension to the five-year "limit" on refusal of a passport, in its unwillingness to clarify whether those that have been previously denied the right to leave would be required to wait an additional five (or more) years on top of the 12 they may have already endured, this law is at fault.

Not until the Soviet Union meets it obligations in full should Western governments consider their job to be done.

Yours faithfully,
NAOMI COHEN
(National fieldworker),
Student & Academic Campaign
for Soviet Jews,
Tudor House,
Llanvanor Road, NW2.
May 22.

Unity and Europe

From the Director of the European Movement

Sir, The 100-odd Conservatives who supported a motion calling for a British rejection of monetary and political union (report, May 22) did so on the day that Chancellor Kohl spoke of building a United States of Europe. They appear to wish to prevent Britain from playing a full and central role in the development of the European Community.

Successive polls have shown popular support for both economic and political integration. Any new treaty or treaty revision will require the assent of the Westminster Parliament. Nevertheless, it would be absurd to pretend that our opposition could prevent our partners moving towards integration. It would simply mean our exclusion.

To stand aloof as we did in the past was unfortunate; to refuse to take part in the current debate, knowing full well that we shall eventually have to accept the outcome, would be irresponsible.

Yours faithfully,
PETER LUFF, Director,
The European Movement (British Council),
1 Whitehall, SW1.

Preparing for disasters

From the President of the Institute of Civil Defence and Disaster Studies

Sir, Your letters (May 8, 13, 16) highlight the inertia with regard to planning for major disasters. The only way forward is to reframe the government's priorities.

Parliament must take the long overdue step to clarify not only the government's task, but also that of *the local authorities. It must spell* out the priorities and provide the resources. Only in this way can ministers show will and commitment to effective disaster-preparedness. Only then will local authorities have the incentive to prepare for disaster.

But no amount of central command will compensate for ineffective planning on the ground. In disaster-preparedness the first actor is usually, and the last actor always, the local authority.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC ALLEY, President,
The Institute of Civil Defence and
Disaster Studies,
Bell Court House,
11 Blomfield Street, EC2.
May 16.

From the Chairman of the London Boroughs Emergency Planning Committee

Sir, In the light of the correspondence concerning response to disasters and the "peace dividend" I *think it is significant that broad* agreement for change to the current arrangements exists between groups and individuals with an extremely wide range of views.

How much longer are we to wait for publication of the results of the Home Office's reviews of civil defence and of peacetime emergency planning?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN AUSTIN-WALKER,
Chairman, London Boroughs
Emergency Planning Committee,
Bedford House,
125-133 Camden High Street, NW1.
May 16.

NHS reforms

From the Chairman of South West Thames Regional Health Authority

Sir, District and regional health authorities have largely been forgotten in the arguments over NHS trusts (letters, May 22) yet their roles are crucial to an understanding of the NHS reforms.

NHS trusts do, indeed, have much greater freedom to run their own affairs but they will only prosper if they provide the services that district health authorities want to buy for their local populations. Freed from their traditional responsibility for the day-to-day running of health services, district health authorities can, for the first time, concentrate on shaping health services to reflect the needs and wishes of local people.

The broader view of health which this process involves is already beginning to bring down the barriers between hospital and community care, consultant and GP, NHS and local government and, most importantly, between NHS decision-makers and ordinary people.

All of these benefits flow from the split between purchasing and provision of health care. Regulating the *market which* has been created by this split — ensuring that competition does serve the public interest — is one of the key responsibilities of regional health authorities. Eight weeks into the reforms there are still, not surprisingly, some uncertainties about new roles and relationships but the benefits that are already apparent promise much for the future.

Yours faithfully,

CUMBERLEGE, Chairman,
South West Thames Regional
Health Authority,
40 Eastbourne Terrace, W2.

From Mr Irving Luke

Sir, For those people who doubt whether a so-called "opted-out hospital" remains within the National Health Service, the question should be posed: do patients entitled to NHS benefits have to pay for attention, skills and service when they attend such a hospital?

Quite clearly, the answer is "No".

Yours faithfully,
I. LUKE
(Consultant ophthalmic surgeon),
44 Fairfax Road, NW6.

Milestone

From Mrs J. D. Meikle

Sir, The answer to your Selkirkshire *reader's question (May 8) lies nearer* home: surely, the best thing before sliced bread was the Selkirk bannock.

A slice of Selkirk bannock was all that Queen Victoria would eat when she visited Sir Walter Scott's granddaughter in Abbotsford, in 1867, and was offered an elegant repast (*A Taste of Scotland*, Theodora Fitzgibbon, *J. M. Dent, 1970*).

Yours faithfully,
JOAN MEIKLE,
9 Hovedene Drive, Howden,
Goole, North Humberside.
May 14.

From Mr John I. Goddard

Sir, I recently came across a cutting from a May 1930 issue of *The Daily Mirror*. Under the heading, "What next?" appeared the following story:

This is the "ready to use" age. I am told, for instance, that in the North of England bread is being supplied sliced and wrapped. The favourite thicknesses are five sixteenths of an inch for bread and butter and half an inch for toast. Before long, no doubt, the bread will be supplied already buttered, but thank goodness we still have to do our own eating.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN I. GODDARD,
30 Wellington Road,
Nantwich, Cheshire.
May 17.

Museums: what the visitors want

From Mrs Valerie Cumming

Sir, The responsibility for changed public attitudes towards museums ("Popular museums can be scholarly too", Janet Daley, May 17) is not solely the preserve of museum directors.

The "highly motivated lay public" often looks to newspapers for guidance about how to spend free time. There is abundant guidance and reportage about films, plays, TV, and sports events, but newspapers rarely discuss the broad range of subject matter, aimed at diverse audiences, which museums present to the public.

Tabloids are usually interested in museums as news items — charges, redundancies, etc. — and the broadsheets retain their "uncompromising snobbery" by employing art critics who venture into museums only to report upon the fine arts.

If newspapers want to help museums reach wider audiences the solution is in their own hands — employ *museum* critics, who are given regular space to offer constructive reviews on everything from science to social history.

Museums regularly and quietly achieve the balance between "uncompromising snobbery" and "commercialism" through changing displays, films, family days, education programmes, handling sessions and many more activities which allow all visitors to enjoy museums. Finding out about these is, though, not assisted greatly by the newspapers.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE CUMMING
(Deputy Director),
Museum of London,
London Wall, EC2.
May 17.

From Professor Emeritus Luke Herrmann

Sir, Perhaps Janet Daley should go more often to the British Museum, which she would invariably find crowded with visitors of all ages and nationalities. There were over five million of them in 1990.

Their presence indicates that, far from excluding them for reasons of scholarly snobbism, the retiring director and his staff have succeeded in making their museum one of the most popular in the world, and despite being popular it is still as it should be, an institution where scholarship thrives.

Yours faithfully,
LUKE HERRMANN,
The Coombes, Sibbertoft,
Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

Hard on the eye

From Mr John Bull

Sir, I have just returned from a frustrating visit to the Tate gallery to view John Constable's paintings. The weather was dull and grey. The daylight in the Constable gallery was at such a low level my visit was virtually worthless.

Several of the galleries had artificial lighting, which made viewing a pleasure, though the room showing the early English paintings was even more Stygian than the Constable room. The attendant, when asked for the lighting to be switched on, said the light would soon get better, it didn't.

All painting, especially John Constable's, is about light. In view of the forthcoming major Constable exhibition at the Tate (June 13-September 15), may we hope that we shall be able to see these wonderful paintings in a light level that makes sense of the artist's efforts.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BULL,
51 Spencer Road, Wimbledon, SW20.
May 18.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 23: The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by Brigadier Clive Robertson, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this evening from the United States of America.

The Queen was represented by the Duke of Grafton, KG, at the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by General Sir David Fraser.

The Duchess of York today visited North Yorkshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for North Yorkshire (Sir Marcus Worsley, Bt).

Her Royal Highness this morning opened Springwood, the new Community Unit for the Elderly at Malton Hospital.

The Duchess of York opened the new wing to St Catherine's Hospice, Scarborough.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited Beck Isle Museum, Pickering.

The Duchess of York then visited St Gregory's Minster, Kirkdale.

Her Royal Highness this evening attended a reception at St James's Palace for Trinity Hospice.

Mrs Harry Cotterell and Captain Neil Blair, RN were in attendance.

The Prince Edward, Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this morning visited Whipsnade Wild Animal Park, Bedfordshire, to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the Park and the 35th Anniversary of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Mrs Richard Warburton was in attendance.

The Princess Royal, Patron, Royal Lymington Yacht Club, attended the Royal Lymington Cup and was received by Captain Maldwin Drummond of Fawley (Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire).

This evening Her Royal Highness, Upper Warden, the Worshipful Company of Loriners, attended the Annual Livery Dinner at the Mansion House and was received by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor (Sir Alexander Graham).

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children Fund, was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Gibbs at the Funeral of Sir John Cumber (formerly Director of the Save the Children Fund) which was held at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Trowleigh, Devon, this afternoon.

CLARENCE HOUSE
May 23: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Rear Admiral Godfrey Place, VC, at the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 23: The Prince of Wales received the Secretary General of the Commonwealth (Chief Anyaoku) at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness attended the opening of the public exhibition of the Paternoster Associates' proposals for the new Paternoster Square, at 34/35 Paternoster Square.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales left Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon for Delhi, India, to attend the Funeral of Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Mr Peter Westmacott and Surgeon-Captain Ian Jenkins, RN, are in attendance.

The Princess of Wales opened the West London Mission's St Luke's Detoxification Centre, 25a Wincott Street, Lambeth, London SE11.

Her Royal Highness, President, Barnardo's, attended a Corporate Hospitality luncheon at Searcy's 30 Pavilion Road, London, SW1.

The Hon Mrs Vivian Baring and Squadron Leader David Barton, RAF, were in attendance.

The Princess of Wales attended a charity performance of *Tango Argentino* in aid of the National Aids Trust and Aids Crisis Trust at the Aldwych Theatre, London WC2.

Mr Patrick Jephson was in attendance.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were represented by the Duke of Norfolk, KG at the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 23: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was represented by Major The Lord Napier and Ettrick at the Memorial Service for The Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 23: The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon arrived at Gatwick Airport at the conclusion of his visit to Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were represented by Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Bland at the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks today.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 23: The Duke of Kent attended the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

The Duchess of Kent this morning visited the Life Education Unit, Mander College Car Park, Bedford and was received on arrival by Colonel John Rose (Deputy Lieutenant of Bedfordshire).

Her Royal Highness this afternoon opened the Young Men's Christian Association, Gibbons Road, Bedford.

Mrs Colin Marsh was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 23: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon opened "Town Thorns", the fourth residential centre of BEN-Motor and Allied Trades Benevolent Fund, at Easenhall, near Rugby, Warwickshire.

Her Royal Highness was received by Captain Charles Fetherston-Dilke, RN (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire).

Later Princess Alexandra, Patron of the National Association for Mental Health (MIND), launched the Coventry Befriending Scheme at the Drop-In-Centre, Wellington Gardens, Windsor Street, Coventry, West Midlands.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Midlands, the Earl of Aylesford.

Princess Alexandra afterwards opened Deerwood Grange, the home for elderly, infirm people run in partnership by the North Birmingham Health Authority and the National Association for Mental Health (MIND), Four Oaks Estate, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

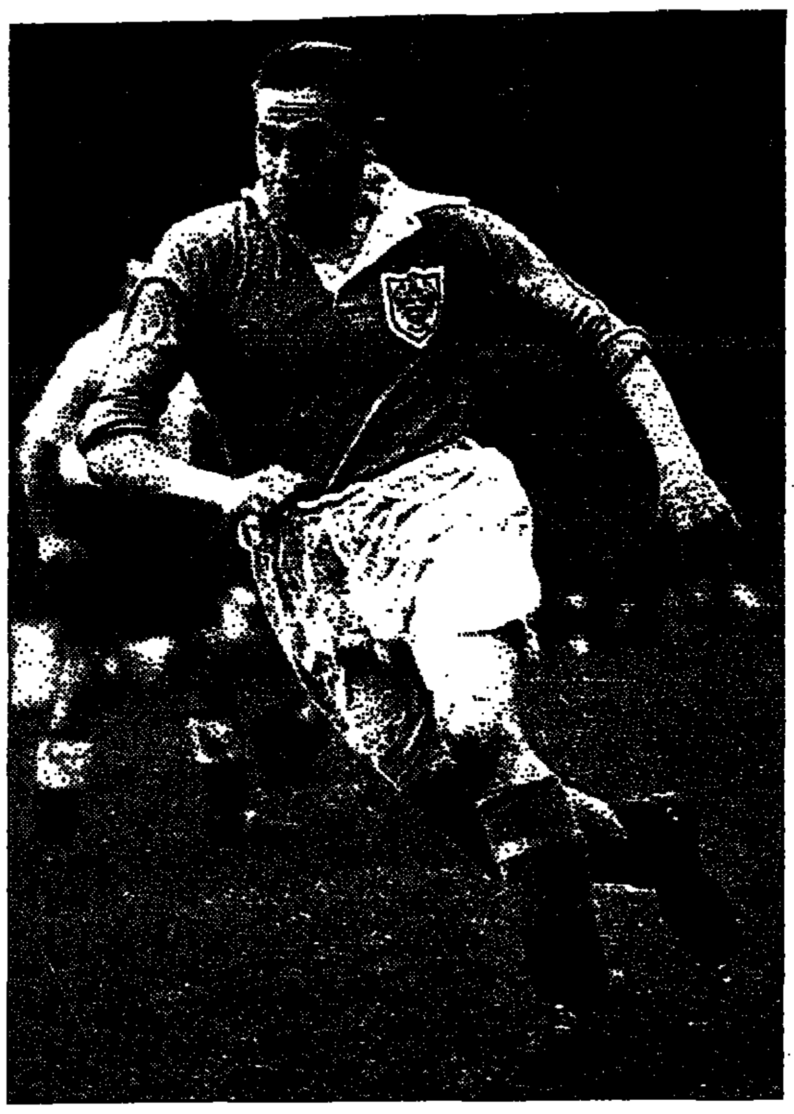
The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra was represented by Sir Angus Ogilvy at the Memorial Service for the Viscount De L'Isle, VC, KG, which was held in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, today.

OBITUARIES

STANLEY MORTENSEN

Stanley Mortensen, former Blackpool and England forward, died on May 22 aged 69. He was born on May 26, 1921.



A FORWARD of rare pace and courage, and a prolific goalscorer, Stanley Mortensen was one of the outstanding players of the post-war era in English soccer. He was also an authentic schoolboy hero at a time when heroism had wider connotations than performances on the sports field, surviving a wartime air crash which left him with severe head injuries and made doctors doubt his capacity to carry on playing football.

His bravery, though, was unquestioned, and he ignored their advice. "He would run through a brick wall for Blackpool or England," testified Len Shackleton. But, understandably, he was not noted for his heading ability, which meant that, although he played in both positions with distinction, he was probably better as an inside-forward than as an out-and-out centre-forward, and he formed a notable double spearhead partnership for England with Tommy Lawton, whose power in the air was phenomenal.

Mortensen had pace in spite of his chunky build. "He was much quicker than Lineker," Sir Stanley Matthews once said. He was also a quick thinker, as quick to spot openings as to explode through them. Once he was through his speed made him impossible to catch, while he had a fierce and accurate shot in his right foot, which brought him the majority of nearly 300 first class goals. As important as his power was his quickwittedness, his shots surprising goalkeepers by coming from an unexpected angle or before they were anticipated.

He played a major role in the triumphs of one of the most outstanding England teams of all time, earning 25 full caps. He scored four goals on his full international debut in the 10-0 win over Portugal in Lisbon in 1947 and ended his England career in the equally historic but less rewarding 6-3 home defeat by Hungary in 1953. In all he scored 24 goals for England in 25 games, including three goals in a 4-2 win over Sweden at Highbury in 1947. The first, a strike from a seemingly impossible angle which is still talked about, was in the 4-0 defeat of Italy in Turin in 1948, one of England's finest performances. He was equally successful for his club, with a striking rate of 197 goals in 320 League appearances for Blackpool. He was the club's leading scorer for nine consecutive seasons between 1946 and 1955. His most famous goals, however, came among the 21 he claimed in 35 FA Cup games.

The 1953 Cup Final has gone down in history as the Matthews Final, the great winger at last earning with a dazzling display the medal which had so long eluded him, but even he admitted the debt he owed to the other Stanley, Mortensen, who scored three goals in Blackpool's 4-3 win over Bolton, the only time such a hat-trick has been scored by a player in an FA Cup Final.

The grandson of a Norwegian sailor, Mortensen was born in South Shields, joining Blackpool as a wing-half. Unlikely as it subsequently sounded, he was almost rejected because of lack of pace. With the determination which was to characterise him he did a lot of work in training to improve his performance, so effectively that his speed off the mark and acceleration became recognised as one of his greatest assets.

The war arrived before Mortensen really made his mark and he joined the RAF, attracting attention while guesting for Bath City. The air crash, which killed the pilot and bomb aimer, could have ended his career, but with typical resilience he fought his way back. He was picked for the England party for the wartime international with Wales in 1943. He made his international debut in that match – for Wales. Ivor Powell, the Welsh midfield player, dislocated his shoulder and, in the more lax atmosphere of wartime football, as Wales had no substitute Mortensen took his place. He was said to be so eager to get on the field he began to strip on the touchline and had to be persuaded to go to the dressing-room to change.

He was soon to take his place in his rightful team, making his first appearance a year later against Wales. He played one more wartime international and one match in the transitional 1945-6 season before earning his first full cap in the match with Portugal. The classic forward line that day was: Matthews, Mortensen, Lawton (who also scored four goals) Mannion and Finney.

His goals, and his understanding with Matthews, were to prove equally important for Blackpool as the side reached three FA Cup Finals. Mortensen was frequently their inspiration, scoring three goals to defeat Tottenham in the 1948 semi-final and scoring one goal and earning a penalty for the other side as his side went down 4-2 to Manchester United in one of the classic finals.

In 1951 they lost again, to Newcastle United, before finally winning the cup in 1953 as Mortensen, who had missed the early rounds with a cartilage injury, came back in time to play his decisive part in the triumph. That was the climax of his career with the Seasiders. His England career had begun to stutter after a failure in the 1950 World Cup, Mortensen being one of the players to carry the can for the humiliating defeat by the USA, and it came to an end in the equally unhappy circumstances of the home defeat by Hungary, even though he scored his regular goal.

He left Blackpool in 1955, playing one season for Hull and another for Southport before retiring. He returned to the club briefly as manager before going into business in the area.

He is survived by his wife.

AIR MARSHAL SIR RONALD LEES

Air Marshal Sir Ronald Beresford Lees, KCB, CBE, DFC, an Australian-born Battle of Britain pilot who became commander-in-chief RAF Germany, died on May 18 aged 81. He was born on April 27, 1910.

ON HEARING that his old squadron had taken heavy casualties in the Battle of Britain, Wing Commander Ronnie Lees pleaded for a week's leave from the RAF sector headquarters where he was serving on Tyneside at the end of August 1940 and flew south to offer his help. But his loyalty nearly cost him his life. The offer was gladly accepted by the embattled pilots of 72 Squadron, then flying from Croydon after being bombed out of Biggin Hill. Lees's reward, however, was to be shot down twice in one day.

The first time, smothered in oil, he steered his crippled Spitfire back to base after being hit by a Messerschmitt 109 over Dungeness. He took off again after emergency repairs, only to be severely wounded in the hand and leg. Once more he struggled to bring his fighter home – conscious of the vital importance of this at a time when the shortage of airframes was acute – but on landing was rushed to hospital where he faced losing a leg. He was saved by the application of penicillin, then in its infancy, and went on to take part in the allied invasion of North Africa, where he led five Spitfire squadrons, and in the Italian campaign. But fragments of shrapnel remained in his body all his life.

After the Battle of Britain he was awarded a bar to the DFC he had won at Dunkirk, where on one sortie he not only shot down a Stuka dive bomber but grabbed the camera he had with him in the cockpit and photographed his "kill". The resulting picture has been frequently published in war histories. He was an indefatigable leader who despite thick fog over southern England insisted on taking his squadron out to provide air cover over Dunkirk on the last day of the evacuation.

Born at Broken Hill, New South Wales, Ronnie Lees applied to join the Royal Australian Air Force after leaving St Peter's College, Adelaide. The country was in the grip of the depression and more than 360 applied for the one place open to boys from South Australia. Lees won it.

At that time the RAAF was short of aircraft while the RAF was in need of more men. Under a form of transfer scheme by which young Australian pilots were given the option of serving in Britain in exchange for a second-hand fighter for the RAAF, Lees took advantage of the chance to see the world and joined the RAF initially on a short-service commission.

He served as ADC to King George VI from 1949 until the King's death in 1952, then continued in the same role under the Queen until 1953. He commanded 83 Group in West Germany from 1953 to 1955 before becoming assistant chief of the air staff (operations) from 1955 to 1958. He was senior air staff officer Fighter Command 1958-60, after which he was promoted air marshal, knighted and appointed deputy chief of the air staff for three years. One of his responsibilities during this time was to play host to Yuri Gagarin during the Soviet cosmonaut's visit to this country. He returned to Germany as commander-in-chief there in 1963. This was a difficult time for the RAF with the disbandment of many squadrons and their crews.

Lees left the RAF two years later and retired with his wife to Australia, where he farmed at Albury on the Murray river. He was due to have taken part in last year's Battle of Britain 50th anniversary march past at Buckingham Palace, but was taken ill on the special RAAF flight from Australia and spent the time in hospital in Honolulu.

He is survived by his wife Rhoda, whom he married in 1931, one son – himself a former RAF pilot – and a daughter.

CLARENCE PAGET

Clarence Paget, book publisher, died in Norwich on May 18 aged 81. He was born in London on July 15, 1909.

A BRILLIANT paperback editor, Clarence Arthur Edward Paget enjoyed life's good things, had an enduring eye for pretty women and was a considerable snob, as well as being an agreeable companion. Paget is the family name of the Marquess of Anglesey and it was Clarrie's forbear, the cavalry commander, who famously lost his leg at Waterloo.

After Eton, Oxford University and war service, Paget worked briefly for the literary agent A. D. Peters and then for the publishing houses of Batsford and Cassell. He came into his own when, in 1957, he joined Pan as a director and chief editor. Pan, despite the handicap of having three hardback publishers as owners, was then developing a remarkably talented team, led by Aubrey Forshaw and Ralph Vernon-Hunt, which stayed together and made the company a much-admired and highly successful paperback house. The job of a paperback chief editor is, essentially, to pick already published hardback titles, decide or divine which will have large popular appeal, and negotiate quickly and shrewdly from that basis. It is a special skill, different from that of a hardback editor, and Paget had it in abundance.

Fiction was his particular strength and in the 17 years until his retirement in 1974 Pan offered a string of immensely successful writers, among them Barbara Cartland, Wilbur Smith, Jack Higgins, Ian Fleming, Arthur Hailey, Sidney Sheldon, Peter Benchley, Georgette Heyer, Jean Plaidy, James Herriot, Susan Howatch, Agatha Christie, Dick Francis, Somerset Maugham and John Le Carré, an extraordinary roster of bestseller authors. A few got away of course: he undervalued and missed both *The Moon is a Balloon* and *The Day of the Jackal*.

His interest in publishing was undiminished by retirement. For ten years he continued as an active consultant and reader for Pan and he acted – successfully and profitably – as a scout for US publishers seeking British writers and vice versa.

There is a widely told story that A. D. Peters fired Paget because "I don't like your face". If true, it was a deeply unfair dismissal for Paget was, if mildly and agreeably wicked, entirely civilised and charming. A meal with him was a well-chosen delight; a visit to his office a pleasure, the more so since his female staff were – be declared – primarily picked for their attractiveness (and irreverently known at Pan as Paget's Light Horse, doubtless because of the Waterloo connection).

He shared with Aubrey Forshaw, Pan's chairman, a passion for old cars, and co-authored a book about the Mercedes-Benz, *The Three Pointed Star*.

He married Cynthia Hutchings in 1942; she died in 1972. There were three daughters from the marriage and a son.

Dinners

Loriners' Company

The Princess Royal, Upper Warden of the Loriners' Company, attended the annual livery dinner held last night at the Mansion House. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present. Mr Bill Willson-Pemberton, Master, presided assisted by Mr Leon Jessel, Under Warden. The Princess Royal, the Lord Mayor and His Honour Michael Argyle also spoke. Among others present were:

The Master of the Company of Chartered Accountants, the Masters of the Barbers', Painter-Stainers' and Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Companies, Lieutenant-Colonel S.V. Gilbert-Denham, the Mayor and Mayoress of Bromley and the Mayor and Mayoress of Walsall.

Lord High Commissioner

Lord Ross, Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and Lady Ross gave a dinner last night at the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Among those present were:

The High Commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean States and Mrs Gunn, Lord and Lady Wylie, Sir Duncan and Lady McDonald, Lieutenant-General Sir John and Lady Macmillan, Mr Justice and Lady Macpherson of Cluny, the Very Rev Dr Ronald Selby Wright, Professor and Mrs Michael Hamlin, Mr and Mrs Wallace Mercer, Mr and Mrs Graham Pilcher, the Rev Professor D William Shaw and Mr and Mrs Gavin Suggett.

University College London

Dr D.H. Roberts, Provost, presided at the University College London Fellows' Dinner held last night. At a ceremony earlier the following new Fellows and Honorary Fellows were admitted:

New Fellows: Professor J H Baker, Dr Barbara E C Banks, Professor A Boksenberg, Major-General M Brown, Professor A G Davies, Professor P Dunnill, Mr Anthony Green (in absentia), Dr Carole Jordan, Dr S F S Li, Sir Henry Phillips, Professor Sir Philip Randle, Professor R L Southam, Professor Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, Sir Gordon Wolstenholme.

Honorary Fellows: Mr D V Bowles, Mr Malcolm Hughes, Professor T H Lambert, Professor M L McGlashan, Sir Julian Ridsdale.

Marriages

The Hon William Plumptre and Miss J. Dargue

The marriage took place on Saturday, May 11, at the Church of the Holy Cross, Goodnestone, Canterbury, between the Hon William Edward Plumptre, fourth son of Lord and Lady FitzWalter, of Goodnestone Park, Canterbury, and Miss Joanna Dargue, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs William Dargue, of Los Gigantes, Tenerife. The Bishop of Dover officiated and the Hon Francis Plumptre, brother, was best man.

Mr J.R. Harris and Miss J. Ip

The marriage took place in Hong Kong, on April 21, 1991, between Jonathan Harris and Judy Ip.

Service dinners

Royal Engineers

Lieutenant-Colonel P.D. Morris presided at a dinner of the Royal Engineers (Postal and Courier Service) held last night at the Mill Hill depot to dine out Brigadier R.J.N. Kelly, Director of the Defence Postal and Courier Services.

HAC

Lieutenant-Colonel O.J. Wingate, Commanding Officer of the Honourable Artillery Company, presided at an Active Officers' dinner held last night at Armoury House. General Sir Richard Trant, Colonel Commandant, was among those present.

Reception

Legalliance EEIG

The Solicitor General, Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, MP, was the guest of honour at a reception hosted by the partners of Baileys Shaw & Gillett to launch Legalliance, the group of European law firms of which Baileys Shaw & Gillett is the UK founder member.

Viscount De L'Isle service

The Queen was represented by the Duke of Grafton, the Duke of Edinburgh by General Sir David Fraser and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother by Rear-Admiral Godfrey Place, VC, Chairman of the VC and GC Association, at a memorial service for Viscount De L'Isle, VC, held yesterday in the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were represented by the Duke of Norfolk, Princess Margaret by Major Lord Napier and Ettrick and Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester and the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Bland. The Duke of Kent attended and read the second lesson. Princess Alexandra was represented by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy.

The Rev J.A. Barrie officiated and the Bishop of Rochester offered prayers and pronounced the blessing. Viscount De L'Isle, son, read the first lesson and Mr Maximilian Wakefield, grandson, read a prayer.

The Lord Chancellor attended and the Secretary of State for Defence was represented by the Hon Archie Hamilton, MP. Among those present were:

The Dowager Viscountess De L'Isle (widow), Mr and the Hon Mrs R S J Abel Smith, Mr and the Hon Mrs Nicholas Villiers, Mr and the Hon Mrs David Harries and the Hon Michael and Mrs Willoughby (sons-in-law and daughters), Viscountess De L'Isle (daughter-in-law), the Hon Philip Sidney, the Hon Sophia Sidney, Mrs Shenagh Heneage, Mr Alexander Wilbraham, Mr Rupert Wilbraham, Mr Jocelyn Wilbraham, Miss Alexandra Harries, Mr Henry Harries, Mr James Harries, Mr James Willoughby and Charlotte Willoughby (grandchildren), Elizabeth Heneage and Harry Heneage (great grandchildren), Mr and the Hon Mrs W N H Legge-Bourke (stepson-in-law and stepdaughter), Mr Harry Legge-Bourke, Miss Alexandra Legge-Bourke, and Captain and Mrs Richard Plunkett-Ernle-Erle-Drax (step-grandchildren).

The High Commissioner for New Zealand, the Australian High Commissioner and Mrs Smith, the Duchess of Norfolk, the Duke of Rutland, the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, the Duchess of Grafton, the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, the Marquess of Lothian, the Marquess and Marchioness of Abergavenny, the Marchioness of Cholmondeley, the Marquess and Marchioness of Normanby, the Earl of Scarbrough, Earl Fortescue, Earl Alexander of Tunis, the Earl of Westmorland, the Earl and Countess of Malmesbury, the Earl and Countess of Portarlington, the Earl and Countess De La Warr, Anne Countess De La Warr, the Dowager Countess of Cromer, the Earl of Selkirk, QC, Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor (White's Club), Lord and Lady George Scott, Lord Valentine Cecil, Lord and Lady Christopher Thynne, Lord Michael Pratt.

Viscount Watkinson, CH, Viscount Dunrossil, Viscount Boyne, Viscount and Viscountess Ullswater, Viscount Massereene and Ferrard, Viscount and Viscountess Camrose, Viscount and Viscountess Slim, Viscount Morpeth, Viscount Whitelaw, CH, Viscount and Viscountess Cranborne, the Right Rev David Say, Lord and Lady Kindersley, Lord Hartwell, Lord Grimthorpe, Lady Soames, the Dowager Lady Egremont, Lord and Lady Swansea, the Lord Lieutenant of Greater London and Lady Bramall, Lord Harvington, Lord Loch, Lord Brougham and Vaux, Lord Crathorne, Lord Quinton, Lord Renton, QC, Lord Orr-Ewing, Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, Lord Palumbo, Lord Eden of Winton (chairman, Royal Armouries), Lord and Lady Aberdare, Lord Carrington, CH, Lord and Lady Fairhaven.

Lord and Lady Dacre of Glanton, Lord and Lady Kinnaird, Lord and Lady Aldington, Lord Gibson-Watt, Lord Hamilton of Dalzell, Lord and Lady Milne, Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, Lord Monk Bretton, Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir, Lord Mishcon, Lord and Lady Lyell, Lord Wigram, Lord and Lady Gibson, Lord Shawcross, QC, Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne, Lord Pender, Mr Julian Amery, MP, Mrs Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Lady Heald, Lady Joan Colville, Lady Angela Oswald, Lady Elizabeth Basendale, the Hon Hugh Astor, the Hon Charles Allsopp, the Hon Mrs P Healing, the Hon Nicolas Gage, the Hon Mrs Archie Hamilton, the Hon Mrs V Lampson, the Hon Virginia Carington, the Hon Sir Clive and Lady Barbara Bossom, the Hon Seymour Fortescue.

The Hon Lady Smith Ryland, the Hon Lady de Zulueta, the Hon Vivian Baring, the Hon Sir Peter Ramsbotham, the Hon R Hope-Morley, the Hon Thomas Hazlerigg, Sir Michael Llewellyn, Sir Richard and Lady Rasch, Caroline Lady Hobart, Sir John Wiggin, Sir Joshua Rowley, Sir Brian Warren, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir James Scott, Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, Helen Lady Dudley-Williams, Sir Humphrey and the Hon Lady Wakefield, the Dowager Lady Wakefield, Lady Dugdale, Priscilla Lady Bacon, Sir John Miller, Major Sir Hervey Bruce, Lady Pearson, Sir Timothy and Lady Bevan, Sir Ronald Melville, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Hanmer and Lady Hanbury, Sir David Sells, Sir Edmund Compton, Sir William Deakin, Sir Francis Pemberton, Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Vickers (Winston Churchill Memorial Trust) with Mr Anthony Montague Browne and Major-General and Mrs H A Lascelles, Sir Peter and Lady Anne Thorne, Sir Noel Moynihan, Sir John Stokes, MP, Sir Ewen and Lady Broadbent, Sir Berkeley Gage, Sir Alexander Durie and Mr Nigel Robson (Automobile Association).

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Eric and Lady Penn, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Johnston, Lady Grandy, Major-General Sir James and Lady Eyre, Sir Andrew Carnwath, Sir Alex Alexander, Sir Brinsley Ford (Society of Dilettanti), Lady Fraser, Sir John Moreton, Sir Harry Moore, Lieutenant-General Sir Napier and the Hon Lady Crookenden, Sir Richard Powell, Sir Charles and Lady Villiers, Rear-Admiral Sir Morgan Morgan-Giles, Lady Legge-Bourke, Field Marshal Sir Rowland Gibbs, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Laurence Sinclair, GC, Sir Peter Gadsden (Britain-Australia Society), Sir Maurice and Lady Dorman, Lady Aird, Sir Guy and Lady Millard, Sir Glyn Jones, Sir Victor and Lady Garland, Sir Edward Ford, Sir John and Lady Page, Captain Drummond of Megginch and Baroness Strange, Mr Marmaduke and Lady Susan Hussey, Colonel T F C and Lady Betty Winnington, Mr Julian and Lady Caroline Faber, Mr Frank and Lady Katharine Giles, Mr Peregrine and Lady Maureen Fellowes, Major David and Lady Willa Chetwode, Mr and the Hon Mrs Richard Palmer, Mr and the Hon Mrs Edmund Brudenell, Mr and the Hon Mrs Adrian White, Elizabeth Madam McGillycuddy of the Reeks, Baroness de Waldner.

Major I M Calvocoressi (also representing the High Sheriff of Kent), Mr M A J Wheeler-Booth (Clerk of the Parliaments), Dr Alan Borg (Imperial War Museum), Colonel Ian Ferguson (Royal Tournament), Major Vyvyan Harmsworth (representing the chairman, Associated Newspapers) and Mrs Harmsworth, the Deputy Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea (also representing the Mayor) with Councillor Adrian FitzGerald (representing the Leader of the Council), Mr S T Dodd (Dunkirk Veterans Association), Brigadier M A Atherton (Royal British Legion, Kent) and Mrs Atherton, Mrs G Oswin (Leeds Castle, Kent), Mr Stuart Holmes (Westminster Abbey), Mr D Fullerton (Church Commissioners), the Master and Clerk of the Grocers' Company, Mr R K Bishop and Mr R Petty (Sun Alliance Group), Mr Robin Fleming (Robert Fleming Holdings), Mr David B Money-Coutts and Mr Nicholas Assheton (Coutts and Company), Mr James Goble (Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship Fund) and Mrs Goble, Colonel O J M Lindsay (Cadet Training Centre), Mr Maurice Price (Honourable Society of Gray's Inn), Mr J Webb (H J and D Webb), Mr Valentine Fleming (Friends of Kent Churches) and Mrs Fleming, Mrs Peggy Stevens (Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men), Brother Biggs and Brother Barnard (Lord Leycester Hospital, Warwick), the Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and Dr Eva Northcote, Mr J Harris and Mr K Moss (Ebonbrook), Mrs Evelyn Mercer (National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies), Mr Nicholas Barker (Roxburghe Club).

Captain W N H Legge-Bourke, Lieutenant-Colonel P R Holcroft, Major and Mrs H M P De Lisle, Lieutenant-Colonel J Tedder, Lieutenant-Colonel G A A-R West, Colonel E J Webb-Carter, Lieutenant-Colonel G F Lednald, Lieutenant-Colonel A C McMather, Major C X S Fenwick, Major C J E Seymour, Captain C R Acland, Captain G G D Jeffries, Lieutenant-Colonel E C T Wilson, VC, Mr J P Kenneally, VC, Captain P J Gardner, VC, Mr Philip May, GC, and Mrs May, Mr Tony Gledhill, GC, Mr Henry Errington, GC, Warrant Officer 1 (SSM) Barry Johnson, GC, and Mrs Johnson, Mr C H Walker, GC, Mrs M Purves, GC, Mr C Wilcox, GC, Colonel B S T Archer, GC, Chief Superintendent J Beaton, GC, Mr H H Flintoff, GC.

Mr R Nearne, Mr Robin Colville, Mrs Peter Alls, Mrs Peter Cazalet, the Dean of Canterbury, Mr and Mrs John Profumo, Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke, Mr David Palmer, Mr H Berkeley, Colonel and Mrs Jeremy Smith-Bingham, Mr Winston S Churchill, MP, and Mrs Churchill, Mrs Peter Beckwith-Smith, Miss Anne Beckwith-Smith, Mr R F Birch Reynardson, Brigadier Peter Prescott, Mrs David Gordon Lennox, Major-General and Mrs Simon Cooper, Mr Hugh van Cutsem, Lieutenant-Colonel B Stewart-Wilson, Mrs V Lort Phillips, Colonel R Seifert, Rear-Admiral Anthony Davies, Mr and Mrs W Birch Reynardson, Major-General B C Gordon Lennox, Major-General M F Hobbs, Mr Ian Hallowes and Mr and Mrs Sandy Gall.

Birthdays today

Sir James Anderton, chief constable, Greater Manchester, 59; Mr Stanley Baxter, comedian, 65; the Duke of Bedford, 74; Sir Timothy Bevan, director, Barclays Bank, 64; Rear-Admiral Sir Kenneth Buckley, 87; Lord Campbell of Alloway, QC, 74; Sir Roden Cutler, VC, diplomat, 75; Mr Bob Dylan, singer, 50; Miss Kathleen Hale, author and illustrator, 93; Dame Joan Hammond, opera and concert singer, 79; Sir Terence Heiser, civil servant, 59; Mr Justice Hodgson, 74; Baroness Hollis of Heigham, 50.

Mr Clifford Irving, former chairman, executive council, Isle of Man Government, 77; Colonel John Mayo, director-general, Help the Aged, 60; Mr Martin Mogg, governor, Durham Prison, 50; Mr Adrian Moorhouse, swimmer, 27; Mr Tony Mullett, chief constable, West Mercia, 58; Mr Luke Rittner, former secretary general, Arts Council of Great Britain, 44; Sir Edmund Sargant, solicitor, 85; Lord Justice Staughton, 58; Mr William Trevor, writer, 63; Mr Arnold Weaker, playwright, 59; the Earl of Woolton, 33; Miss Mai Zetterling, actress, 66.

Today's royal engagement

The Princess Royal, as Patron of the University of the West Indies Development and Endowment Appeal, will attend the Benefit Theatre performance of *Antony and Cleopatra* at the Bloomsbury Theatre at 6.55.

Luncheon

Prime Minister

The Prime Minister was host yesterday at a luncheon held at 10 Downing Street in honour of the President of Zimbabwe. The guests were:

Mr Kumbirai Kangai, Mr Denis Norman, Dr Witness Mangwende, the High Commissioner for Zimbabwe, the Hon Douglas Hurd, MP, Mr Kieran Prendergast and Mr Stephen Wall.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.A. Armfield and Miss S. Aspinall

The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and the late Mrs P.C.H. Armfield, of Kingston, Surrey, and Sophie, daughter of Mrs H.J. Aspinall, of Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Mr G. Bartle-Jones and Miss E.N. Dunlop

The engagement is announced between Guy Bartle-Jones, of the Welsh Guards, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Hew Bartle-Jones, of St Nicholas, South Glamorgan, and Emma, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Dunlop, of Hook Heath, Surrey.

Mr J.M. Chinn and Miss M. Cope

Sonia and Ronald Cope, together with Janice and Sydney Chinn, are delighted to announce the forthcoming marriage of Michèle to Jonathan.

Mr B.H. Gaskell and the Hon Jessica Mills

The marriage will shortly take place between Benjamin, son of the late Mr and Mrs T.J. Gaskell, and Jessica Anne, daughter of the late Lord Hillingdon and of Lady Sarah Stuart.

Mr J.P.A. Goddard and Miss L.M. Jotham

The engagement is announced between John Peter Ambrose, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Goddard, of Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, and Linda Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Noel Jotham, of Miskin, Mid-Glamorgan.

Mr T.J. Harman and Miss J.L. Boxer

The engagement is announced between Toby, younger son of Sir Jeremiah Harman, of Kensington, London, and Erica, Lady Harman, of Highclere, Berkshire, and Joanne, daughter of Mr and the late Mrs Neville Boxer, of Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire.

Mr P.N.J. Green and Miss M.E. Byford

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Norman Green, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of Mr and Mrs Barrie Byford, of Rothley, Leicestershire.

Mr P.R. Herring and Miss C.V. Brock

The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Herring, of Godalming, Surrey, and Carola, daughter of Mr John Brock, of Knole, Somerset, and Mrs Anthea Brock, of Wyke House, Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr T. Kabir and Miss R.L. Haggard

The engagement is announced between Titu, son of Mr and Mrs Ahmadul Kabir, of Dhaka, Bangladesh, and Rachel, daughter of Mr Piers Haggard and Mrs Christiane Sherwen, both of London.

Mr R.J. Kemp and Miss L.E. Cooper

The engagement is announced between Roderick, son of Dr Ian Kemp and the late Dr Wendy Kemp, of Edinburgh, and Lucinda, daughter of Mr William Cooper, of Malton, Yorkshire, and Mrs Joan Cooper, of Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Mr G.R. Salter and Miss T.E. Foster-Brown

The engagement is announced between Guy, elder son of Mr and Mrs R.M. Salter, and Tania, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.W. Foster-Brown.

Mr H. Wyndham Burnett and Miss F.E. Farrell

The engagement is announced between Hugh, elder son of Mr John Wyndham Burnett, MBE, and Mrs Norma Wyndham Burnett, of Albury, Surrey, and Fiona Edwina, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Edward J. Farrell, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire.

هكذا من الأصل

The new covenant that I will make with my people of Israel will be this: I will put my law within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.
Jeremiah 31:33 GNB

BIRTHS

BATHURST - On May 6th 1991, to Nicola (née Palmer) and Andrew, a daughter, Arabella Frances May, a sister for Rupert and Charlotte.

COLERIDGE - On May 22nd 1991, to Georgia and Nicholas, a son, Alexander James.

COLE - see Godfrey.

DAVIES - On May 22nd, to Caroline (née Plessier) and Tim, a daughter, Laura Aurelie Jane, a sister for Marc and John.

EVANS - On May 9th 1991, to Christine (née Pudney) and Simon, a son, Luke Matthew Harry.

FLYNN - On May 22nd, to Fionnuala (née Wallace) and Mark, a daughter, Olivia.

GODFREY - On Tuesday April 30th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Charlotte (née Cole) and John, a son, Thomas Christopher Reginald.

GRAINGER - On May 22nd, to Rachel (née Manners) and Stephen, a daughter, Alexandra Jane.

HAYES - On May 21st, to Jane (née Todd-Young) and William, a daughter, Camilla Kate Roxanne.

HYLAND - On May 14th, at Royal Hampshire Hospital, Winchester, to Susan (née Webb) and John, a daughter, Joanna Alexandra.

INFANTE - On May 20th, at The Portland Hospital, two wonderful boys, Edoardo and Nicolo, to Lucilla (née Verticchio) and Giancarlo.

JAMMET - On May 20th, to Valerie and Lin Jammet, a son, Tully.

LEWIS - On May 21st, at Mayday Hospital, to Angela and Andy, a beautiful daughter, Nicola Jane.

MALLOWS - On May 22nd, to Lesley (née Tullis) and Christopher, a daughter, Caroline, a sister for Georgina, Michael and Rosanna.

McALPINE - On May 23rd, to Fiona and Euan, a son, Tom.

MILLER - On May 22nd, to Jennifer (née Robotham) and Charles, a daughter, Rebecca, a sister for Thomas.

OLESEN - On May 22nd, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Jude, wife of Thomas, a daughter, Anna.

PERRYMAN - On May 21st, to Sarah (née Banks) and Martyn, a daughter, Georgina Ruth. Our heartfelt thanks to all who have helped us at Queen Mary's Hospital.

PETZAL - On May 20th, to Daniella (Douek) and Peter, at The Portland Hospital, a daughter, Lisa Annabel, a sister for Oliver and Natalie.

TODD-YOUNG - see Hayes.

WELTON - On May 22nd, to Julie (née West) and Des, a son, Thomas James, a brother for Joanna and Deborah.

WHITE - On May 21st, at The West Dorset Hospital, Dorchester, to Beth (née Rooney) and Andrew, a son, Alexander Thomas, a brother for Harry.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

FORSYTH:HAYTON - On May 24th 1941 at Ashton-upon-Mersey, Scott to Joanna. Now at Clyst Hydon, Devon.

DEATHS

BAGNALL - On May 21st 1991, peacefully at Bexhill, Frederick Cornelius John (Jack), former Director of Redpath Dorman Long Ltd., beloved husband of Hylda. Funeral Service at Eastbourne Crematorium on Tuesday May 28th at 3 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Mummery, 31 Devonshire Road, Bexhill, Sussex.

BAKER - On May 20th, suddenly, Terence. Funeral Service at 11 am on Tuesday May 28th at St Giles Church, Camberwell Church Street, London SE5. No flowers by request, but donations if desired to MENCAP, 123 Golden Lane, EC1.

BODY - On May 16th 1991, peacefully at home in Mayfield, Jean Alexa, aged 77 years, widow of Leslie Charles.

CANNING - On May 21st during a hard operation, Wendy Carol (née Brooks), once of The English School, Cairo, beloved wife of Philip and adored mother of Douglas and Rachel, at the age of 51. She faced pain with astonishing courage, looked after others less strong and was eagerly anticipating a renewed lease of life. The light has gone out of our lives but her unquenchable spirit, and our love, will remain. Funeral service and burial, and the opportunity to pay respect to a wonderful woman, at All Saints Church, Banstead, on Thursday May 30th at 4 pm. Funeral Directors, W.A. Truelove, 119 Carshalton Road, Sutton.

CHAPMAN - On May 22nd, peacefully at home after an illness borne with great courage, Rodney Harold Benbow, beloved husband of Annette and dear brother of Pat. Formerly House Master, Clyde House and Second Master, Kingham Hill School. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Churchill, Oxon., on Wednesday May 29th at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Oxford Crematorium. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to B.C.M.S. Crosslinks, 251 Lewisham Way, London SE4 1XF.

CULLEN - On May 22nd, Richard John Neil, aged 19, dearly loved son of Peggy and David and brother to James. A young man who faced his problems head on, with his own special smile and tremendous courage. Funeral at The Downs Crematorium, Brighton, at 2.30 pm on Wednesday May 29th. No flowers. Donations to The Stephen Rutty Research Fund, c/o Dr. A.D.B. Webster Immune Deficiency Research Group, Clinical Research Centre, Watford Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3UJ.

FETHERSTONHAUGH - On May 22nd, Lady Anne Gladys, peacefully, at Barrock Park, Carlisle. Funeral at Kirkoswald on Tuesday May 28th at 2 pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to St Oswald's Church.

FRENCH - On May 21st 1991, at home in St Albans, Louisa Grace Mercia, aged 80. Widow of the late Major Eric French, much loved mother of Felicity and Serena, adored granny of Nicholas, Jonathan, Becky and Tara. Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday June 9th at St Paul's, Hatfield Road, St Albans at 2.30 pm. Donations to RNLI c/o Phillips Funeral Services, 68 Alma Road, St Albans, AL1 3BL.

GOTOBED - On May 20th, peacefully in hospital, Thomas Charles, of Ely. Funeral Service will be held at 10 am on Wednesday May 29th at St Etheldreda's Roman Catholic Church, Egremont Street, Ely, followed by interment in Ely Cemetery. Floral tributes may be sent to Co-operative Funeral Service, 34 James Street, Cambridge.

GRAY - On May 22nd 1991, after a long illness, Commander Archibald Gray D.S.O. Royal Navy (Ret'd), D.L., aged 76 years, of Great Staughton, Cambridgeshire. Husband of Grey, father of Hugh, Emma, Caroline and Robert. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Great Staughton, on Friday May 31st at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations to St. Andrew's Church and The Royal British Legion c/o T.L. Cobbold, 28 New Street, St Neots, Cambs.

HOOPER - On May 20th, Lt-Col. Justin Hooper, R.A., aged 92. Cremation at Mortlake Cemetery on May 29th at 2.30 pm. Interment at Lanercost Priory, Cumbria, on July 7th at 12.30 pm. No flowers. Enquiries (081) 940-7587.

JOHNS - On May 21st 1991, at home in Bayswater, Jacqueline Mary (née Arundell), now relieved of the pains she quietly and bravely endured. Dearly loved mother of son Mike. Cremation service at 11.45 Wednesday May 29th at Ipswich Crematorium. Enquiries to Saunders Funeral Service, tel: (0473) 823117.

ROSS - On May 21st suddenly in hospital, Francis Fraser, aged 74 years, of Alne, York, formerly of Reigate. Dearly beloved husband of Rona, dear father of Michael, Keith and Helen, loving grandad of Linda, Judith, Michael, Sarah, Edward, James and Daniel. Funeral Service at the Church of St Mary the Virgin, Alne, York, on Friday May 31st at 1 pm. No flowers by request but donations, if desired, may be sent to S.M.O.A.T. (Third World Charity) c/o Mr Ingram, 17 Carlton Road, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 2BY.

STEPHENS - On Wednesday May 22nd, at her home, peacefully, after a short illness borne very bravely, Meg (née Ward), beloved wife of the late George, loving mother of Peter, Julia, Pug and Rachel and much adored grandmother to her twelve grandchildren. Service of Thanksgiving for her life at All Saints Church, Waldron, East Sussex, on Tuesday May 28th at 12 noon, followed by private cremation. Flowers from your garden, donations very welcomed to Macmillan Nurses c/o R.A. Brooks & Son, 35 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, tel: (0444) 454391 or (082572) 2895.

TOWNSEND - On May 22nd 1991, at St George's Hospital, Tooting, Lionel Bryan Knox, beloved husband, son and brother. Formerly of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. Funeral Service to be held on May 31st 1991 at St Mary's Parish Church, Battersea Church Road, at 2 pm, followed by cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium. Flowers, cut or arrangements only please by 12 noon to E. Larner & Son Ltd., 117 Falcon Road, London SW11 2PE or donations to St George's Scanner Appeal c/o The Administrator, St George's Hospital, Blackshaw Road, London SW17 0QT.

WELLS - On May 22nd 1991, Peacefully at King's College Hospital, London, Angela, widow of William Thomas Wells Q.C., M.P., and mother of Martin, Gillian, Catherine and Johnny. Funeral Mass at the Church of the Resurrection of Our Lord, Kirkdale, Sydenham Hill, SE26, at 11 am on Friday May 31st, followed by burial at Hither Green.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DAVIS - see Simpson-Smith.

SIMPSON-SMITH - A Thanksgiving Service for the lives of Marguerite Simpson-Smith and her sister Gwendoline Davis will be held in the Chapel of the West London Hospital, Hammersmith Road, W6, on Thursday 6th June at 2.30pm. Tea will be served afterwards in the hospital boardroom.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

WOLFSON - Lady Edith, on her birthday, remembered with love by all her family and friends.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILD:WOOD

On May 24th 1941, Alan Child M.B.E. to Molly, at The Tabernacle, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Now living in Croydon. With warmest wishes to our Chairman and his wife Molly on their Golden Wedding Anniversary. From all your loyal friends at The Hospital Saving Association.

GARDEN STATUARY At Auction - 650 lots to be sold "Without Reserve" at Hickmet Ltd, Southways, Lowfield Heath, Crawley, Sussex. On Monday 27th May at 11am. For further information and viewing times please contact Alastair Dixon at Sothebys on 071 584 9161 or Hickmet Ltd 0293 562741

THE Reverend William Stewart has been ordained to the priesthood according to the Rite and Intention of the Sacred Council of Trent, at the hands of His Grace, the Archbishop of Caer-Glow, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Penge, in the presence of the congregation there assembled.

WOULD TURNER, Mr. M. J.formerly Credits Manager at the Regional Directors Office in Birmingham of United Dominions Trust Limited or anyone with any information regarding Mr.Turner's whereabouts since 1982. Please Reply to Box No 3909

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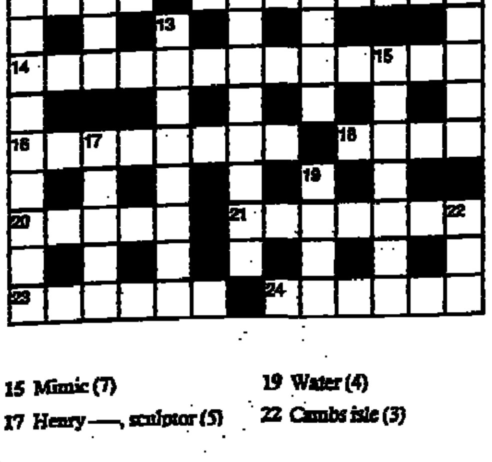

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SMALL PROGRESSIVE Wine Bar (London SE1 near Blackfriars and Waterloo stations) selling an outstanding range of wines, seeks a cook to prepare imaginative food. Would suit recently qualified person or someone with similar experience. Hours 9 to 4, no weekends. Earnings c.£960 per month. Please write, enclosing CV, to Box No 3899

WANTED: Experienced cook for abroad, min 1 yr, aged 20/35 Tel Bines Agy on 071 381 4747

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CLARKE, BERNARD EDWARD CLARKE otherwise BERNARD EDWARD JAMES CLARKE late of Flat 5, 21 Bedfordwell Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex died at Eastbourne on 17th December 1989
(Estate about £7,600)

ELLIS nee SMALES, IDA MURIEL ELLIS nee SMALES Widow late of 61 Hackwood Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire died at Basingstoke on 14th February 1991
(Estate about £57,000)

HEATHER, LOUIS GERALD HEATHER late of Tooting Bec Hospital, Tooting Bec Road, Tooting, London SW17 died There on 2nd December 1989
(Estate about £8,600)

HICKS ERNEST HICKS late of 104 Foliot Road, North Prospect, Plymouth, Devon died at Plymouth on 26th December 1990
(Estate about £7,000)

HOMEYER, ADELAIDE SELINA HOMEYER otherwise ADELAIDE SELINA EMMA BLANCHE HOMEYER otherwise BLANCHE HOMEYER Spinster late of Dorothy Lewis Home, Picton Walk, Canton, Cardiff, South Glamorgan died at Penarth, South Glamorgan on 27th December 1989
(Estate about £4,000)

HUYTON nee WETTER, MARGUERITE HUYTON otherwise MARGARET HUYTON nee WETTER Widow late of Southwood Hospital, Southwood Lane, Highgate, London N6 died at Highgate on 3rd September 1985
(Estate about £11,000)

McVETY, ROBERT JOHN McVETY late of Haven Hotel, St. Swithun's Road, Bournemouth, Dorset died at Bournemouth on 26th December 1990
(Estate about £375,000)

MOLACHO, JACOB MOLACHO late of Bruce House, Kemble Street, Holborn, London WC2 died at Camden, London WC1 on 3rd October 1985
(Estate about £6,600)

PURCELL, LOUIS ARTHUR PURCELL late of 20 Brantwood Road, Luton, Bedfordshire died There on 30th September 1989
(Estate about £11,560)

RICHARDSON formerly CARRICK nee CHIAPPINI, ESTHER RITA RICHARDSON formerly ESTHER RITA CARRICK nee CHIAPPINI Widow late of 'Waltons', Downs Road, Folkestone, Kent died at Folkestone on 22nd January 1987
(Estate about £3,800)

TENNENT, HENRY HESLOP TENNENT late of 6 Mayfield Avenue, Fishponds, Bristol, Avon died at Fishponds on 26th July 1990
(Estate about £63,000)

The kin of the above-named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (B.V.), Queen Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, failing which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Will Power to lift the shadow of diabetes

and the link with
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BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION
10 Queen Anne Street, London W1M 0BD
REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 215199
THE SHADOW OF DIABETES

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CHURCH HOUSING TRUST
Sutherland House
70-78 West Hendon Broadway
London NW9 7BT

3 FACTS about people who are blind

✻ They want to work
✻ They need to live normal lives
✻ They enjoy pleasure, leisure and holidays

London Association for the Blind make it possible. Help us please with a donation or covenant now and remember us with a legacy later.

LONDON ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND
Ref.TT, 14-16 Verney Road, London SE16 3DZ. Tel: 071-732 8771

The British Home and Hospital for Incurables

has been caring for the chronically sick and disabled since 1861. We are a registered charity (No. 206222), receive no direct Government grant and rely on your support. Please help us to continue our work.

Donations to
Matron Kelly at BHHI,
Crown Lane, Streatham,
London SW16 3JB.

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

No-one is more likely to prove there is life after cancer than us, the largest independent cancer research organisation in Europe. Over 90% of your donation or legacy goes directly to research.
Send to: P O BOX 123, Room DM1, Lincoln's Inn Field, London WC2A 3PX.
Credit cards: Dial 100 and ask for Freefone Cancer.

Thank you from the RNLI

It is your support through legacies and voluntary contributions that allows us to meet our daily running costs of £100,000 and provide our lifeboatmen with the boats and equipment they need.
For full details on legacies, contact:

The Director, Dept DT, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Road, Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ, or phone (0202) 671133.

THE NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The National Deaf Children's Society is the only charity especially concerned with the needs of deaf children and their families. It provides advice and information for parents, teachers, audiologists and others and supports children by providing specialised equipment, holiday and welfare grants, education and recreation. Please write for an Annual Report to David Beck,
THE NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
45 Hereford Road, London W2 5AH

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Help us make old and fit a fact of life

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RESEARCH INTO AGEING
Dept.TT, FREEPOST, London EC4B 4AD
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Kidney Research Saves Lives

Please help with a donation now and a legacy later

NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH

NATIONAL KIDNEY RESEARCH FUND
Dept.TT, 42 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RG
Registered Charity No.252892

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Help find a cure

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Please give what you can - a small contribution now and a legacy later will help make a major contribution to mental health. Donations please to

THE MENTAL HEALTH FOUNDATION
8 Hallam Street, London W1N 6DH

How near we are to the cure... ...depends on you.

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND
43 Great Ormond Street,
London WC1N 3JJ 071-405 0101
voluntary Branches throughout Britain

PUBLIC NOTICES

EASTERN GENERATION LIMITED
Notice of an Application for Consent to Construct a 380 Mega Watt Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Station near Lawford, Essex

Notice is hereby given that Eastern Generation Limited ("the Company") has applied under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 ("the Act") for the consent of the Secretary of State for Energy to construct and operate a 380 MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Station near Lawford in Essex, and for a direction under section 90(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 that planning permission for the development be deemed to be granted.

The new station to be known as Lawford Power Station would have a capacity of approximately 380 Megawatts (MW).

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the Environmental Statement discussing the Company's proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, are available for inspection during normal office hours at the following address: Tendring District Council, Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley CO16 9AJ.

In addition, copies of the Environmental Statement may be obtained at Eastern Generation Limited, Wherstead Park, Wherstead, Ipswich, Suffolk IP9 2AQ at a cost of £50 plus VAT while stocks last.

Any objections should be made in writing to the Secretary of State for Energy, Electricity Division "A", Room 2.3.15, 1 Palace Street, Victoria, London SW1E 5HE; stating the name of the station and the grounds of objection, not later than 24th July 1991.

Date 22nd May 1991
DOCS/SEF018

LEGAL NOTICES

CAROUSEL PROMOTIONS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held on 7th June 1991 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6EN at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Terence John Roper, FIPA of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.

DATED this 7th day of May 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
M.M. JONES
DIRECTOR

No. 289 of 1991
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
ASHTON HOMES LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

The above named company was placed into compulsory liquidation on 27 February 1991 and I, Frank Stansall, of St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London, EC2Y 5DH hereby give notice that I was appointed Liquidator on 24 April 1991.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the company must deliver them to me and all debts due to the company must be paid to me.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debt must forward their proof of debt to me. No further advertisement will be given.

Dated this 13th day of May 1991
F Stansall
Liquidator

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO CLAIM
PHILIPP AND LION LIMITED
Registered Office: Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP
Principal Trading Address: Chapel Court, Rivington Street, London EC2
Company Number: 01992670

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that on 3 May 1991 we were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named company.

Creditors of the company who have not already done so should submit their claims in writing to us at the following address under reference CL/DLM/Philipp and Lion Limited.

Touche Ross & Co., Friary Court, 65 Crutched Friars, London EC3N 2NP.
D L Morgan and C Morris

Notice of Appointment for Advertisement
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
Baker Sportswear Limited
T/A Trims Lewis
- In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Anthony Peter Supperstone, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 21 May 1991. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.

Dated 21 May 1991.
A P SUPPERSTONE
Liquidator

REGENT BUILDING CONTRACTORS LIMITED

I, TERENCE JOHN ROPER F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 8th April 1991 by the Members and Creditors.

Dated: 21 May 1991
T.J. Roper F.I.P.A.
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

BROADCASTING ACT 1990
COPYRIGHT TRIBUNAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 41A(3) of the Copyright Tribunal (Amendment) Rules 1991, of applications under paragraph 5(1) of Schedule 17 to the Broadcasting Act 1990 made by the Society of Licensed Victuallers of Heatherly, London Road, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 8DR (hereinafter called "the Applicant").

Copies of the relevant Notices of Application and Statements of Case were served on the assignees of the persons providing the programme services namely: BBC Enterprises Limited of 35 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA and Independent Television Publications Limited of 247 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0AU, (hereinafter called "the Copyright Owners"), on 9 April 1991.

The dispute relates to the terms of payment proposed by the Copyright Owners to the Applicants for the use as of right by the Applicants of copyright information relating to the titles and times of inclusion of the programmes which are to be, or may be included in the television programme services provided by the British Broadcasting Corporation and the Independent Television companies.

The Tribunal may order that similar applications under the Broadcasting Act 1990 shall be considered together and give consequential directions.

ANY ORGANISATION OR PERSON wishing to object to the Applicant's credentials or wishing to be made a party to the proceedings should apply to the undersigned in the manner prescribed by Rule 23 of The Copyright Tribunal Rules 1989 not later than 14 June 1991.

C A BROOK
Secretary
Copyright Tribunal
Room 4/6 Hazlitt House
45 Southampton Buildings
London WC2A 1AR

CRIMEWATCH SURVEILLANCE (UK) LIMITED

I, Maurice Raymond Dorrington FIPA of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 26th April 1991 by the Members and Creditors.

Dated: 20 May 1991
M.R. Dorrington FIPA
Liquidator

HAWSTED LIMITED
T/A THE CUMBERLAND TAVERN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Latham Crossley & Davis, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester, M3 2LE at 10.30 am on Tuesday 4th June 1991, for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the administrative receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors committees by or under the Act.

Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to us at the address shown above no later than 12 noon on Monday 3rd June 1991, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
(b) there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

Date: 13/5/91
D.A.T. WOOD
Joint Administrative Receiver

Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the administrative receivers at the address shown above.

L & B PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS LIMITED

I, TERENCE JOHN ROPER F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 19th April 1991 by the Members and Creditors.

Dated: 21st May 1991
T.J. Roper FIPA, Liquidator

No. 1316 of 1991
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
ASHTON GROUP LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

The above named company was placed into compulsory liquidation on 20 March 1991 and I, Frank Stansall, of St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London, EC2Y 5DH hereby give notice that I was appointed Liquidator on 24 April 1991.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the company must deliver them to me and all debts due to the company must be paid to me.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debt must forward their proof of debt to me. No further advertisement will be given.

Dated this 13th day of May 1991
F Stansall
Liquidator

No. 258 of 1991
HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF
ASHTON ESTATES LIMITED
AND
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

The above named company was placed into compulsory liquidation on 27 February 1991 and I, Frank Stansall, of St. Alphage House, 2 Fore Street, London, EC2Y 5DH hereby give notice that I was appointed Liquidator on 24 April 1991.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the company must deliver them to me and all debts due to the company must be paid to me.

Creditors who have not yet proved their debt must forward their proof of debt to me. No further advertisement will be given.

Dated this 13th day of May 1991
F Stansall
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY COBBLER LIMITED

I, MAURICE RAYMOND DORRINGTON F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 10th April 1991 by the Members and Creditors.

Dated: 21 May 1991
M.R. Dorrington F.I.P.A.
Liquidator

CITY & COMMERCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

I, JAMIE TAYLOR FIPA of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1 was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 18th April 1991 by the Members and Creditors.

Dated: 21st May 1991
J. Taylor FIPA
Liquidator

SUSSEX LABELS LIMITED
DALETEX SALES LIMITED
(Both in Receivership)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Meetings of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named companies will be held at the offices of Robson Rhodes, The Galleria, Station Road, Crawley, West Sussex, on the 6th day of June 1991 at 10 am in the forenoon, for the purpose of having laid before them a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under section 48 of the said Act. The meetings may, if they think fit, establish creditors' committees to exercise the functions conferred on by or under the Act.

Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
a. they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and
b. there has been lodged with us, any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.

Date this 15th day of May 1991
I Jacob and N H Cooper
Joint Administrative Receivers
NOTE:
Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the administrative receivers at the address shown above.

CREST ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at Room 316 Maxwell Buildings, University of Salford, the Crescent, Salford on the 30 May 1991 at 11.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.

Statements of claim and proxy form if applicable must be completed and lodged at Maxnov House 337/341 Chapel Street, Salford, Manchester, M3 5JY not later than 12.00 noon on 29 May 1991. Notice is also given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) Insolvency Act 1986, that Michael Anthony Freeman of Falk Freeman, Chartered Accountants, Maxnov House, 337-341 Chapel Street, Salford, Manchester M3 5JY is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above Company and will furnish Creditors free of charge with such information concerning the above company's affairs as they may reasonably require.

Dated this 13th day of May 1991
A Wallwork, Director

CORPORATE FINANCE UNIT LIMITED
(In Receivership)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Robson Rhodes, 186 City Road, London on the 6th day of June 1991 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors' committee to exercise the functions conferred on by or under the Act.

Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
a. they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and
b. there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.

Date this fifteenth day of May 1991
N H Cooper and I Jacob
Joint Administrative Receivers
NOTE:
Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the administrative receivers at the address shown above.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
TAKE 5 PRINTING SERVICES LIMITED

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company is to be held at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB on 13th June 1991 at 11.45 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Berley & Co., Chartered Accountants, 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from 11 June 1991.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at the registered office of the company situated at Berley & Co., Chartered Accountants, 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB not later than 12 noon on 12 June 1991.

Dated: 13 May 1991
R W COOK
Director

ON THIS DAY

MAY 24 1881

It is unlikely that Scotland will ever be reconciled to the union of 1707; many of the "mutterings of discontent" are heard today.

SCOTLAND

Edinburgh - The fact cannot longer be concealed that Scotland is becoming dissatisfied, impatient, even disaffected, in consequence of the treatment which her affairs have received and are receiving at the hands of the Government which she did so much to put into power. There have been mutterings of discontent in many quarters for some time, but now the suppressed mutterings have given place to outspoken and emphatic remonstrances.

There can be no doubt of the feeling of dissatisfaction to which this state of matters has given rise. If the Scotch members and the Scotch Liberals generally were not animated by strong and sympathetic loyalty to the Government and to Mr Gladstone, the latent discontent would have found vigorous expression long ago. The exclusion of the Lord Advocate from Parliament last Session was held to be a good ground for the exercise of forbearance; but the Lord Advocate has been in the House of Commons for several months, and the prospect has not brightened.

His Lordship is very obliging to deputations, and as indefatigable in replying to correspondents as the Premier himself. Of his legislative ambition there can be no doubt, and it must be very galling to him to be unable to push forward any of his schemes. Every week, nearly every day, adds to the number of subjects with which the Government is pledged to deal; yet there is no practical result.

The Lord Advocate has been holding conferences with the Scotch members on the subject of local government with the view of arranging the principles on which legislation should proceed. But his course does not seem to be approved by the Scotch peers, for the Earl of Minto has given notice of his intention to ask the Government whether it has anything of interest on the subject to communicate to the members of the Upper House; and the Earl of Fife has given notice of his intention to raise again the question of the appointment of a Scotch Minister who is not a lawyer.

The necessity for the latter step has been emphasised by the withdrawal of the Duke of Argyll from the Cabinet. The Cabinet now contains no Scotchman. Mr Gladstone represents a Scotch county; but no one regards him as a Scotch member in the ordinary sense. There was a hope, when the vacancy occurred, that another Scotchman might be found to fill the post. Considering the efforts of Scotland in general and of Mid Lothian in particular to serve the Liberal cause at the general election, that was not unreasonable. But already, it is said, these things are forgotten. When a vacancy occurred in the Cabinet by the resignation of the only Scotchman, pure and simple, whom it contained, his place was filled, almost before it was vacated, by the appointment of an English peer, who, it was evidently thought, would be able to render valuable service to the Ministry in connexion with its Irish policy.

Ireland, and not Scotland - the exigencies of the Ministry, and not the fair balancing of the competing interests of the different parts of the Empire - formed the makeweight in determining the selection of a successor to the Duke of Argyll. If there had not been in the House of Lords such Scotch peers of proved capacity as the Earl of Elgin, the Earl of Rosebery, the Earl of Fife, and the Earl of Aberdeen, the selection of Lord Carlingford to succeed the Duke of Argyll as Lord Privy Seal would not have provoked comment; but in the circumstances of the case the passing of them over is somewhat remarkable.

The practical result is that Scotch business is less likely now than ever it was to have a fair place or to receive its due attention, either in the Cabinet or in Parliament.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

FOREVER MARY: Bad doings in a Sicilian reform school: familiar material, but vigorously played by a cast plucked from the streets by director Marco Risi.
National Film Theatre (071-928 3232).

GUILTY BY SUSPICION (15): Hollywood witch-hunt tale — muted as drama, but decently acted. Robert De Niro, Annette Bening, director, Irwin Winkler.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324)

LIFE IS CHEAP . . . BUT TOILET PAPER IS EXPENSIVE: Wayne Wang's whirlwind tour through the madness of Hong Kong: part documentary, part send-up. Rude, beautiful, witty.
ICA Cinema (071-930 3647)

MERMAIDS (15): Synthetic comedy of family life. Winona Ryder appeals; preening Cher grates on the nerves. Director, Richard Benjamin
Odeon West End (071-930 5252/7615).

PROBLEM CHILD (PG): Hideously crude comedy about a delinquent seven year-old (a charmless performance by Michael Oliver).
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD (PG): Tom Stoppard directs his word-spinning play. Attractive visuals, though audience fatigue eventually sets in. Gary Oldman, Tim Roth, Richard Dreyfuss.
Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Curzon West End (071-439 4805) Gate (071-727 4043)

WHITE FANG (PG): Tame Disney version of Jack London's novel about a boy and his wolf-dog in the Klondike. Director, Randal Kleiser.
Cannon Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Odeons Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Warner (071-439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

CURRENT

AY CARMELA! (12): Carlos Saura's boisterous, but shallow tale of travelling actors embroiled in the Spanish Civil War. Carmen Maura, Andres Pajares.
Lumière (071-836 0691).

◆ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U):** Gérard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano, director Jean-Paul Rappeneau.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Premiere (071-439 4470) Renoir (071-837 8402).

◆ **DANCES WITH WOLVES (12):** Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into the Sioux's way of life. Winner of seven Oscars.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Plaza (071-497 9999) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ **THE DOORS (18):** Oliver Stone's rip-roaring biography of Doors singer Jim Morrison (Val Kilmer).
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Swiss Cottage (0426 914098) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ **HAMLET (U):** Mel Gibson as the moody Prince — a decent, lively performance but lacking bold imagination. Director, Franco Zeffirelli.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Odeons: Haymarket (071-839 7697) Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ **L.A. STORY (15):** Steve Martin's weatherman finds true love in wacky Los Angeles. Whirlwind fantasy comedy.
Cannons Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324)

◆ **MISERY (18):** Oscar-winner Kathy Bates as the number one fan tormenting a best-selling novelist (James Caan). Sprightly thriller from Stephen King's novel, director, Rob Reiner.
Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Leicester Square (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

NIGHT SUN (12): Tolstoy's *Father Sergius* adapted by the Taviani Brothers. A modest performance by Julian Sands as the monk struggling with earthly sins, but the images glow.
Renoir (071-837 8402) Minema (071-235 4225).

THESE FOOLISH THINGS (PG): Bertrand Tavernier's chamber piece about a dying father (Dirk Bogarde) tended by his daughter (Jane Birkin). Somewhat arch, but tender.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865)

◆ **WHITE PALACE (18):** Torrid tale of mismatched lovers — burger waitress Susan Sarandon (excellent) and the upwardly mobile James Spader.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Plaza (071-497 9999)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
☒ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **BLACK SNOW:** Robin Bailey a sublimely funny Stanislavsky figure in Bulgakov's tart Moscow comedy.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat today, 2.30pm. 145mins.

■ **CARMEN JONES:** Classy production of the Hammerstein/Bizet all-black musical, packed with pizzazz.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 165mins.

☐ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA:** Brian Friel's Olivier Award-winning memory-play set in 1930s Donegal.
Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1044) Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☒ **THE HOMECOMING:** Warren Mitchell and others ensnared by Cherie Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 135mins.

☒ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole as the drunk-about-town columnist. Final week.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399) Mon-Fri, 8.30pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. 130mins

☐ **LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST:** Enchanting Terry Hands production, with Ralph Fiennes and Amanda Root.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm.

☒ **MATADOR:** The rise of The Boy from Nowhere: great dancing and sets but a weak second half.
Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5040). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm. 150mins.

☒ **THE MUSIC OF ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER:** Sarah Brightman takes us through her ex-husband's oeuvre, helped by several frock changes.
Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 135mins. Final week.

☐ **THE PHILANTHROPIST:** Captivating performance by Edward Fox in Christopher Hampton's comedy.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

☒ **THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS:** Judi Dench and Niamh Cusack stand out in Sam Mendes' otherwise disappointing production
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363) Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 1.30pm. 170mins.

☒ **RE: JOYCE!:** Maureen Lipman's pleasing ramble around Joyce Grenfell
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9988). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

■ **RICHARD III:** Olivier Award-winner Ian McKellen as the chilling dictator in a Thirties setting.
National (Lyttelton) (as left) Tonight, tomorrow, 7pm, mat tomorrow, 1pm. 210mins

☐ **SAME OLD MOON:** Irish girl discovers sex, literature and paternal love in over-familiar tale.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437 3667). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 105mins.

☒ **SILLY COW:** Ben Elton's awkward collection of one-liners, centred on Dawn French.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.45pm. 130mins.

☐ **TOP GIRLS:** Caryl Churchill's pungent play revealing the opportunities missed in women's fight for power.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Underground: Sloane Square Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 135mins.

☐ **TWELFTH NIGHT:** Peter Hall's sensitive production with Eric Porter, Dinsdale Landen, David Ryall.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm 140mins.

■ **TWO SHAKESPEAREAN ACTORS:** John Carlisle and Anton Lesser play rival Thespians in Richard Nelson's highly entertaining play.
The Pit, Barbican Centre (as left). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. 180mins.

☐ **A WING AND A PRAYER:** Alan Franks' neatish wheelchair comedy set in a high-class nursing home
New End, 27 New End, NW3 (071-794 0022). Tues-Sun, 8pm, mat Sun, 4pm. 120mins

LONG RUNNERS: ☒ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ☐ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) . ☐ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . ■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . . ■ Five Guys Named Moe: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ☒ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ The Rehearsal: Garrick (071-379 6107). . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . ☐ The Rocky Horror Show: Piccadilly (071-867 1118) . ☒ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) . . ☐ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122). . . ☒ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . ☒ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

WEEKEND EVENTS

ROYAL CONCERTGEBOUW: The highly respected Dutch orchestra performs Bruckner's Fifth Symphony under Riccardo Chailly.
Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), tonight, 7.45pm.

OPERA 80: The company's London season continues with Stephen Metcalf's ingeniously simple staging of Mozart's *Magic Flute* (conducted by Ivor Bolton) in repertoire with Mark Dornford May's vibrant production of Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* (conducted by Charles Peebles).
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916), tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

TIMON OF ATHENS: Stephen Oliver's skilful and energetic new opera, staged for English National Opera by Graham Vick, with bass-baritone Monte Jaffe a magnificent Timon. Graeme Jenkins conducts. Tomorrow: Tim Albery's impressive, abstract vision of Britten's *Peter Grimes*, with Philip Langridge as the protagonist. David Atherton conducts.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161). *Timon*, tonight, 7.30pm; *Grimes*, tomorrow, 7.30pm.

TOSCA: Americans Samuel Ramey (Scarpia) and Neil Shicoff (Cavaradossi) command John Cox's revival of the Zeffirelli production, with Hildegard Behrens less well cast as Tosca. Michel Plasson conducts. Tomorrow: last performance of Nuria Espert's authentically Spanish staging of Bizet's *Carmen*, with Kathleen Kuhlmann in the lead. Barry Wordsworth conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), *Tosca*, tonight, 7.30pm; *Carmen*, tomorrow, 7pm.

BILLY ECKSTINE: Sophisticated ballads and blues from the internationally renowned singer.
Ronnie Scott's, 47 Frith Street, London W1 (071-439 0747), 8.30pm.

PAUL SIMON: The singer-songwriter with his "Born at the Right Time" show: a retrospective of his career, played by a 14-strong backing group including the masterful saxophonist Michael Brecker. Final London dates.
Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middlesex (081-900 1234), tonight, tomorrow, 8pm.

ADVENTURES IN MOTION PICTURES: *Spitfire*, the popular all-male spoof of Romantic ballet, returns in a programme that features AMP's current hit, the two-act *Town & Country*, a nostalgic and satirical look at English life.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), Sun, 7.45pm

ALBAN BERG QUARTET: Final concert in the Bartók and Mozart cycle from the superb Austrian group.
QEH (as above), tomorrow, 7.45pm.

BATH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: This year's festival theme is "Beyond Vienna", with special emphasis on music and musicians from Hungary and Czechoslovakia. An impressive programme of concerts over the weekend includes the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Libor Pešek (joined by violinist Kyung-Wha Chung), saxophonist Andy Sheppard, the Vogler Quartet from Germany, Soviet pianist Mikhail Pletnev, the USA's Monticello Trio, and the Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra from Hungary.
Festival Box Office (0225 463362/466411), Bath, Avon, until June 9.

HAY-ON-WYE FESTIVAL OF LITERATURE: Writers in residence this year are short-story writer Deborah Moggach and dub-poet Benjamin Zephaniah. The festival opens tonight with Derek Walcott discussing his epic poem, *Omeros*. Later in the series, appearances by Lauren Bacall, Michael Palin, Sue Townsend, Edna O'Brien, Brian Cox, among others.
Festival Box Office (0497 821299), Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire, until June 2.

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA: The first new production this season is Trevor Nunn's *Così fan tutte*, with Simon Rattle conducting the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. All eyes on fast-rising British soprano Amanda Roocroft.
Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (0273 541111), 5pm.

LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC: The venerable orchestra under its chief conductor Kurt Sanderling begins a short UK tour. Haydn's Symphony No 39 is paired with Shostakovich's Eighth Symphony for the first of two performances in Glasgow.
Royal Concert Hall, Buchanan Street, Glasgow (041-227 5511), tomorrow, Sun, 7.30pm.

Awfully proper propaganda

THEATRE

Henry VIII
Chichester

FOR many of us, Keith Michell is as much Henry VIII as the late Yul Brynner was the King of Siam. Nobody has displaced his lanky frame from the throne that the BBC gave him all those years ago. But the Chichester stage has a rather larger acreage than most television sets, and Shakespeare and Fletcher make greater demands on the voicebox than most screenwriting teams. How does Michell's Henry VIII cope with a challenge he has, as it happens, never faced before?

Not much better than anybody else in Ian Judge's lacklustre production. Michell cuts a dapper figure, confidently exudes authority, geniality and exasperated impatience, but attempts nothing more complex. For instance, he seems to believe that Henry replaces Katherine with Anne Boleyn for the good moral reasons he publicly gives. There is no suspicion that a shoddy deal is being half-consciously done in some no man's land between his conscience and his will.

Moreover, Michell's diction is uncertain even by the standards of a cast apt to snatch at lines like muggers at handbags. That oddly precious voice swoops about the scale, converting "seek it of us" into "sigitivs", "the passages made toward it" into "passagesmdtwit" and "while I *live*" into a weird wail of "whiloheeaylif".

This operatic smash-and-grab is hard to justify. The lack of subtlety is more understandable, given the limitations of what is partly a chronicle play, partly a strenuous piece of post-Tudor propaganda. Pity Shakespeare and Fletcher for the desperate tact with which they ensure that Henry, Katherine, Anne Boleyn, Buckingham, Cranmer and the doomed Wolsey all somehow emerge sympathetically. Imagine the script conferences that must have preceded a "happy" ending in which the king holds the baby girl he never wanted, flanked by the wife he will soon behead, while fulsome tributes to the Virgin Queen and the Wisest Fool in Christendom pour from an archbishop who will be burned by Bloody Mary.

Actually, one of Judge's few happy touches is to set Fiona Fullerton's Anne a little apart from the family photo, for which everybody else seems to be posing. She looks pale, drawn, as if knowing her fate. But otherwise, not much to admire happens on Russell Craig's set: a vast, revolving table in front of a chic office-block plastered with prints of Tudor London. There is, for instance, little sense that Henry's court was a place where wise men whispered and watched their backs. Indeed, Judge's view is that they sometimes bawled dangerous secrets across wide open spaces, like barkers at a fairground.

Nor does anything very striking emerge from inside costumes that include double-breasted suits for ordinary Londoners, Regency court clothes for the nobles and Tudor regalia for Henry himself. Dorothy Tutin is a fine, dignified Katherine, but has yet to express the full pain and humiliation of her predicament. Tony Britton, the sides of his mouth thrust balefully down, makes a mean, sour Wolsey, but is far from achieving an admittedly sudden and tricky transition to humility in defeat. Moreover, should he really react to Katherine's accusations of pride by jumping as if stung by a cattle prod, or shrink from her proferred crucifix like a vampire from garlic? This production needs more work.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

MARILYN KINGWILL

Semi-precious: Keith Michell as Henry; Fiona Fullerton as Anne Boleyn

DANCE

Tango Argentino
Aldwych

THE appeal of the tango, if we are honest, is the *frisson* of sexual decadence it allows under a veneer of respectability. If women's lib woke up to the implications, the Aldwych Theatre would be picketed in protest at the way one number after another in *Tango Argentino* ends with the woman glued to her half-sneering partner in what *Private Eye* would define as a leg-over situation.

Indeed, probably the best dance in the show is the first duet, by a couple named only as Giselle and Alejandro, when he keeps one hand in his pocket in indication of his easy superiority. The archetypal couple are Carlos Borquez and Inés: he looking like a balding headmaster, she the most notorious of his delinquent girl pupils, breaking away from her close embraces only to allow a quick flash of what may well be the smallest pair of knickers in captivity.

The tango began among the gringos or immigrants in the Buenos Aires slums a century or more ago, and is said variously to represent the relationship of whores to their pimps or (in its two-man version) a contest for the favours of one woman. The foreign influence continues: how many in the Aldwych audience realise, I wonder, that the most easily recognised piece of music all evening, "Jealousy", identified in the programme under its Spanish title "Celos", is actually by a Danish composer?

Yet the show represents well the idea of a distant, exotic land and I am assured that, except for having a higher proportion of dance to songs or instrumental music, it is just like a large-scale version of what you would see in a Buenos Aires cabaret.

Least effective is the set-piece ballet about a woman stabbed by her fiancé after she has succumbed to temptation and been recruited to a brothel. Choreographers, from the Dutch Van Manen to the Argentine Oscar Araiz, have shown that it is possible to make more subtle and complex use of this dance, aided by musicians as refined as Itilio Stamponi or Astor Piazzolla.

Tango Argentino satisfies itself with the raw material, tricked out with some fancy costumes and more brilliantine than I imagined still extant. The band plays with enthusiasm, led by José Libertella and Luis Stazo, both on bandonéon, and Osvaldo Berlingieri, one of two pianists who work a relay system. Four singers belt out their sentimental numbers with the aid of waving arms and a skilled microphone technique.

The presence of the musicians on stage leaves limited space for dancing, but the tango does not depend much on floor patterns, and the forestage gives adequate space for a show which, judging by the enthusiasm of the audience, may well find itself with packed houses night after night.

JOHN PERCIVAL

ROCK

Julian Cope
The Fridge, Brixton

THE hair said it all. When Julian Cope made his entry, his untamed thatch was done up to look like a slipshod toupee at the front and a hank of hay at the back. This was a show which, like the barnet, went off wildly in one direction, only to reroute suddenly into another.

At the outset, Cope appeared to be giving us his personal tribute to Jim Morrison: all scowls, howls and apocalypse, but as the performance warmed up, the audience was entitled to query this Julian's identity. Giving us his pantomime dame, Cope seemed to be turning into Clary.

Either way, this was a hot-headed occasion. Most of the songs came from Cope's latest album, *Peggy Suicide*, a double offering about global self-destruction which affords scope for overdoing it on stage. A typical offering – for example, "Pristeen", "Easy Easy Rider", "If You Love Me at All" or "World Shut Your Mouth" – would start with the solid rhythmic structure of bass and drums and then gradually fray at the edges into something more chaotic. "Promised Land", a dirge which threatened to expand into a swamp of hellish noise, never quite made it. "Hanging Out and Hung Up on the Line" was mayhem from the first note.

To round out the portrait of a poet of doom, Cope was not averse to mutating a respectable song into a crazed spoken meditation, nor to getting down on his knees and acting out his demonic visions. In one particularly frenzied song, he illustrated his delirium by executing a series of near-perfect judo falls. In others he swung, chimp-like, from the sidestage scaffolding.

For someone who drifted into the business with what was then the voguish qualification of being unable to sing a note, Cope nowadays has quite an impressive voice on him. He can do a *basso profundo*, but then he can also do a screeching rat. Donald Ross Skinner, his coeval on guitar, mostly did the screeching rat.

There was the odd reprise from Cope's years fronting the Teardrop Explodes, and these tended to be the quieter moments. He gave us an acoustic "Robert Mitchum" and a jaunty, English rendition of "A Passionate Friend". It could almost have been Ray Davies up there. Is there no end to Julian Cope?

JASPER REES

ROCK

EMF
National, Kilburn

YOUNGER than Happy Mondays, snappier than Inspiral Carpets and considerably more visible than the Stone Roses, EMF are the latest in a succession of bands that have welded the trappings of rap and dance culture on to a basic rock-group chassis. The resulting vehicle is a souped-up racer, designed to be driven hard for short bursts.

Convened in the Forest of Dean less than two years ago, EMF have a slobbish air of indifference that has earned them a mildly anti-social reputation. However, their debut single "Unbelievable", released last autumn, won instant success.

Such swift acclaim has left them strapped for material, and at the National they played "Unbelievable" twice, as well as a thrashed-up version of Cream's elegiac "Strange Brew", so savaged as to be barely recognisable. A new song, "Watching the World", was evidently under-rehearsed.

Dressed in baggy shorts or trousers rolled to the knee and back-to-front baseball hats, the five musicians looked like childish figures in a Bert Hardy photograph. They brought a restless energy to the task in hand, inspiring the capacity crowd to its own exertions and sharply exposing the limitations of the venue's air-conditioning. It was perfectly possible to break sweat while sitting still, not that there was much of that going on.

Although media coverage has tended to foster an impression of EMF as pop flyweights, their show added an impressive weight to the package. "Children", "Long Summer Days" and "When You're Mine" were typical of a formula built on the foundations of Mark Decloedt's fidgety drum motifs and overlaid with gaudy, shrieking layers of keyboard, guitar and pre-recorded effects. The unmistakably English whine of James Atkins's vocals reminded me of Terry Hall of the Fun Boy Three.

With just enough musical variety to hold the attention, but never a moment when the energy level was allowed to sag, the group romped through their set, supremely confident in the freshness of their appeal. They are very much the rapid-fire sound of the moment, but there seemed to be more going on here than met the eye. They have time on their side and may do great things yet.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Arts features, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

AUREOLE

(c) The celestial crown won by a martyr or virgin or doctor, as victor over the world, the flesh, and the devil, from the Latin *aureola* golden sc. *corona*: "The gilded aureole/In which our highest painters place/Some living woman's simple face."

AILUROMANIA

(c) Obsession with pussies, from the Greek *ailuros* a cat + *mania* madness, obsession: "Ailuropmanes can indulge their favourite pastime: celebrating the wonder of the feline."

HAGIARCHY

(a) Government by saints, God help us, from the Greek *hagios* holy + *archein* to govern: "The internal weakness of the hagiarchy already betrays itself in the one small but significant circumstance of its treatment of the name of God."

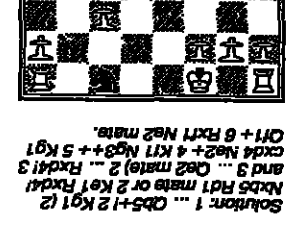
SWATCH

(b) A sample of cloth or fabric, originally Scottish and northern dialect, orig. obsc.: "Some of the collections were just dull. Why not just send for the swatch book?"

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Yanovsky — Muratov, USSR 1988. How did black finish off in fine style?



Solution: 1 ... Qb5+! 2 Kg1 (2 Nxb5 Rd1 mate or 2 Ke1 Rxd1 and 3 ... Qe2 mate) 2 ... Rxd1! 3 cxd4 Ne2+ 4 Kf1 Ng3++ 5 Kg1 Qf1+ 6 Rxf1 Ne2 mate.

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 TIMON OF ATHENS Tomor 7.30 PETER GRIMES

GLYNDEBOURNE FESTIVAL OPERA with The Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment Today & Thu at 5.00. Sun at 4.00 Così fan tutte. Tomor & Wed at 5.00 Le nozze di Figaro. All performances SOLD OUT. For possible returned tickets/recorded information call 0273-541111.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911. Standby info 836 6903.8 CC 65 amphi seats avail on the day. THE ROYAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 Tosca Tomor 7.00 Carmen

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916 First Call 24hrs 7 days 240 7200 Until 1 June. Eves 7.30pm OPERA 80 Ton't DON PASQUALE. Tomor THE MAGIC FLUTE

THEATRES

ADELPHI 071 836 7611 CC 071 793 1000/071 379 4444 First Call 24hr cc 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 930 6123 NOW BKG TO 18 JAN 92 ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7.30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8.00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" Sunday Express

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FORTUNE 071 836 2238 MARIELLOYD 4PM EVERY SUNDAY 4PM "A wicked rendition" F Times

GARRICK BO & CC 071 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 GARY BOND MEL MARTIN MILES ANDERSON THE REHEARSAL by JEAN ANOUILH "THEATRICAL CAVIAR" USA Today Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 3

GLOBE BO & CC 071 494 5065 (24hr no bkg fee) cc (no bkg fees) 071 379 4444 (24hr) 071 793 1000 Grps 071 494 5119 SAME OLD MOON BY GERALDINE ARON "Extraordinarily moving, bitter-sweet comedy" D.Mail Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8, Wed 3

GREENWICH THEATRE 081 858 7755 Evgs 7.45 (inc Bank Hol Mon) Mats Sat 2.30 Timothy Spall and Patrick O'Connell in Ronald Eyre's new version of Gogol's THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR "Hilarious" Std.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL B.O. 071 930 8800 or 24hr Hotline 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) "The hottest tickets in town" D.Exp "Dawn French is the funniest woman in Britain" Eve Std. DAWN FRENCH IN SILLY COW BY BEN ELTON MON - THUR EVEN 8.00 pm. FRI and SAT EVEN 8.45 pm MATS SAT 5.30 pm

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr CC 379-4444 497-9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930-6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS JILL WASHINGTON MARIO S. FRANGOULIS Iren Bartok plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 NOW BOOKING FROM OCT 1991 TO MARCH 1992 by post & at the theatre

LONDON PALLADIUM BO 071 437 7373/437 2055 cc 24hr 379 4444 (no bkg-fee) 497 9977 24hr (bkg fee) 793 1000 Prevs from 1 June Opens 12 June THE ONLY MUSICAL SEEN & SUNG BY MILLIONS Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice's JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT Starring JASON DONOVAN Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30

LYRIC, Shafts Ave Bo & cc 071 494 5045 cc 379 4444 All tel lines 24hr/7 days (bkg fee) "SONG & DANCE DYNAMITE" Daily Mail FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE THE OLIVIER AWARD WINNING MUSICAL OUTSTANDING ENTERTAINMENT OF THE YEAR BEST CHOREOGRAPHER Charles Augins "A JOYOUS WALLOPING HIT" Guardian Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat at 6.00 & 8.45 NOW BOOKING TO JAN 92 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (cc no bkg fee 071 836 3464) SAILOR BEWARE - 50s HIT COMEDY "Such comic skill...one's breath is taken away" F.T. Eves 7.45pm mats Wed 2.30pm. Sat 4pm

MERMAID 071 410 0000 CC 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977. Prvws 30 May Opens 3 June M-Thu 8.30 Fri/Sat 7.30, 9.30 THUNDERBIRDS F.A.B. "You have to see it to believe it" Mail

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252; Grps 071 620 0741; 24 hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15 Tomor 2.00 & 7.15 THE MISER by Molière PLATFORM PERF Today 2pm THE WILLIAM POEL FESTIVAL LYTTELTON Ton't 7.00 Tomor 1.00 & 7.00 RICHARD III by Shakespeare COTTESLOE Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.30 & 7.30 BLACK SNOW by Dewhurst

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 071 405 0072 CC 404 4079 Grps 405 1567 (All above tel numbers avail from 9am) All Hrs 379 4444 Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches (Grp bkg) 930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 NOW BOOKING THRU OCT LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

OPEN AIR THEATRE Regents Park 071 486 2431 CC 486 1933/497 9977 (bkg fee) A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM Reduced Price Preview Today, Tomor. Mon 8.0 First Night Tues

OLD VIC 071 928 7616 or 071 793 0600 (agency no fee) cc (all with bkg fee) 071 793 1000/379 4444/497 9977 Eves 7.45 Wed & Sat Mats 3 pm NEW BOOKING PERIOD From now until September "THE MUSICAL HIT OF THE YEAR" Int Herald Tribune OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II's CARMEN JONES "A GREAT BIG HUGE SWINGING SEXY HIT" LBC Music by Bizet Directed by Simon Callow "OUTCLASSES EVERY OTHER MUSICAL IN TOWN" Times SOME SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK INC. BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-379 4444/497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071-930 6123 Grps 071-494 1671 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES THE MUSICAL SENSATION Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval NOW BOOKING THRU MARCH 92 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO & cc 071 867 1044 cc 379 4444 (no fee) 793 1000/497 9977 BEST PLAY OLIVIER/SWET AWARDS '91 DANCING AT LUGHNASA "Poignant, hilarious & spell-binding" Sunday Times. Brian Friel's new masterpiece "ASTONISHING" D Express. Mon-Sat 8 Mats Thur 3.0 Sat 4.0

PICCADILLY 071 867 1118 cc no bkg fee: 867 1111/071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (24hrs)/bkg fee: 071 497 9977 (24hrs) Groups 071-930 6123 RICHARD O'BRIEN'S "MAD BAD FUN MUSICAL" D Mir THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW Directed by Robin Lefevre "RAMPANT WITH ACTIVITY" Sunday Express Mon/Thur 8 Fri & Sat 7 & 9.15 90 mins. BOOKING THRU AUG 91

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 071-839 4401 cc First Call 24hr 071 379 9465 (no bkg fee) PETER HALL COMPANY TWELFTH NIGHT "HURRY UP & SEE PETER HALL'S PRODUCTION WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME..." S. Tel LAST TWO WEEKS MUST CLOSE JUNE 1 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat at 3 JULIE WALTERS in TENNESSEE WILLIAMS THE ROSE TATTOO PREVIEWS FROM 4 JUNE MI GROUP PLAYHOUSE

PRINCE OF WALES BO 071 839 5972 CC 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 24hr 379 4444 (bkg fee) 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 ASPECTS OF LOVE "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D.Tel Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART Directed by TREVOR NUNN Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 NOW BOOKING TO APRIL 1992

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 cc 24 hr (bkg fee) 836 3464/379 4444/793 1000 SARAH BRIGHTMAN in The Music of ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER With full Orchestra and Ensemble "AN EXTRAORDINARILY POWERFUL EVENING" D Mail LAST PERF TOMOR Nightly at 8.00 pm

QUEENS 071-494 5040 (24hrs) cc 071 379 4444 (No bkg fee) 071-497 9977/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 071-930 6123 Mon-Fri 7.45 Wed Mat at 3 Sat 4.30 & 8 STEFANIE POWERS JOHN BARROWMAN & NICKY HENSON MATADOR "The New Mega-Musical" People Directed by Elijah Moshinsky "MATADOR IS MAGNIFICENT... MATADOR IS SPECTACULAR... MATADOR JE T'ADORE" D. Exp

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON 071 638 8891 cc Mon-Sun 9am-8pm BARBICAN THEATRE LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.00 & 7.30 THE PIT: TWO SHAKESPEAREAN ACTORS Ton't 7.30, Tomor 2.00 & 7.30 STRATFORD UPON AVON 0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm) ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE HENRY IV, PART 2 Ton't 7.30, Tomor 1.30 & 7.30 THE SWAN: THE VIRTUOSO Ton't 7.30, Tomor 1.30 Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999. RSC's 24hr box office (bkg fee) 071 497 9977

ROYAL COURT THEATRE 071-730 1745 cc 071-836 2428 - TOP GIRLS by Caryl Churchill Eves at 8.00. Sat Mat at 4.00

SADLER'S WELLS 071-278 8916 Returning to London by popular demand SUSAN HAMPSHIRE DAVID YIP in Rodgers & Hammerstein's THE KING AND I "MAGIC" D. Mail "SUMPTUOUS" Times "ELEGANT" D. Exp Eves 7.30. Wed & Sat mats 2.30 GROUP SALES 071-930 6123 credit cards (bkg fee Fri & Sat perfs only) 793 1000/379 4444 LIMITED SEASON 4 JUNE TO 13 JULY

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45, Sat 5.0 and 8.0 39th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

SHAFTESBURY cc 071-379 5399 cc (no bkg fee) 071-379 4444 /497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 "THE TRIUMPHANT RETURN OF" D.Exp PETER O'TOOLE in "THE COMEDY OF THE YEAR" E. Std Drama Award JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL by Keith Waterhouse directed by Ned Sherrin Eves 8.30pm. Sat 5 & 8.30pm LAST 3 PERFS! Must end tomorrow

VAUDEVILLE BO & CC 836 9987 cc 793 1000 (no fee) & 24 hr cc 836 2428 / 379 4444 (bkg fee) MAUREEN LIPMAN in RE: JOYCE! with DENIS KING Directed by ALAN STRACHAN Evgs 8.0. Mat Sat 3.0 Till June 8 REDUCED PREVS FROM 12 JUNE DORA BRYAN in 70, GIRLS, 70 A Musical Comedy - Book Now!

VICTORIA PALACE 071 834 1317 CC 071-379 4444/240 7200 071-793 1000 (bkg fee) Groups 071 930 6123 BUDDY The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun BUDDY "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel BUDDY "SHEER UNADULTERATED FUN... I LOVE THIS SHOW" Sun Exp BUDDY Mon-Thur 8.00 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF 2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 28th

WYNDHAMS THEATRE B.O. 867 1116 cc 867 1111/379 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) (24hrs) 793 1000 Grps 240 7941 EDWARD FOX "gives a great haunting comic performance" S. Times TIM BROOKE-TAYLOR in THE PHILANTHROPIST by Christopher Hampton "as witty and stimulating as ever" Times Kenneth Ives' production "elevates into the unmissable category" Ind on Sun. Evgs Mon-Fri 8.00. Mat Thurs 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8.30 FOR A LIMITED SEASON

ART GALLERIES

BERNARD JACOBSON GALLERY, 14a Clifford St. W1. WILLIAM TILLYER: Living in Arcadia, Until 18th June. Mon-Fri 10-6 Sats 10-1. (Tel. 071-495 7855) & at WILDENSTEIN 147 New Bond St. W1. Until 14th June. Mon-Fri 10-5.30. (Tel.071-629 0602).

MISTRAL GALLERIES, 10 Dover St, W1. Exhibition of Paintings by Martin Mooney. Mon-Fri 10-6 tel 071-499 4701

NEW GRAFTON GALLERY 49 Church Rd, Barnes SW13 081-748 8850 JOSEPHINE TROTTER Until June 8

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly W1. Recorded info 071 439 4996/7. The Royal Academy will be closed until 3 June.

THE 1991 BRITISH INTERIOR DESIGN EXHIBITION 23rd May to 16th June AT ITS NEW HOME THE DESIGN & DECORATION BUILDING 107a Pimlico Road, SW1 200 yards from Sloane Square. Amazing Rooms created by Top Interior Designers 'Definitely, but definitely, not to be missed.' HOUSE & GARDEN Mon - Fri 10.30am - 6pm. Weds 10.30am -7pm. Weekends & Bank Holidays 11am - 5pm.

CINEMAS

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805 Gary Oldman, Tim Roth in Tom Stoppard's ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD (PG) Progs at 12.45 (not Sun) 3.15, 5.45 & 8.25

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward in Merchant Ivory's MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG) Progs at 1.00 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 & 8.30

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Dirk Bogarde, Jane Birkin in THESE FOOLISH THINGS (PG) Progs at 1.10 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 & 8.30

TO PLACE YOUR ENTERTAINMENT ADVERTISEMENT IN THE TIMES TRADE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 1920 ADVERTISING FAX NO. 071-481 9313 TELEX 925088 PRIVATE ADVERTISERS TEL: 071-481 4000 MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax

6.30 BBC Breakfast News. Includes a report on the economic cost of sick buildings. Presented by Paul Burden and Sara Coburn

9.05 Gloria Live. Gloria Hunniford with guests, topical studio debate and music 9.55 It's Easy. Dressmaking advice

10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25 Stoppit and Tidyup (r) 10.35 The Hogan Family. American domestic sitcom starring Jason Bateman (r)

11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 Golf. The Volvo PGA championship from the West course, Wentworth, introduced by Steve Rider. Includes at 12.00 and 12.55 News, regional news and weather

1.00 One O'Clock News and weather

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Who's Bluffing Who? Ulrika Jonsson and Richard Cartridge host the game show in which contestants must sort fact from fiction

2.10 Film: The Guns and the Fury (1981). Cliché-ridden actioner starring Cameron Mitchell and Barry Stokes as American oilmen working in the Persian desert in 1908. They are in conflict over drilling rights with the British Bengal Lancers, the Russian Cossacks and local Baluchi tribesmen. With Peter Graves. Directed by Tony Zarindast

3.50 Quick Draw McGraw. Cartoon (r) 4.00 A Bear Behind (r) 4.10 Rude Dog and the Dweebs. Animated adventures (r) 4.35 The Legend of Tim Tyler. Children's fantasy serial, set in Germany, about a boy whose laugh always gets him out of trouble (r)

5.00 Newsround 5.10 The Girl From Tomorrow. Drama series about a girl from the year 3000 who is thrown back in time to 1990s Australia. (Ceefax)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours

7.00 Wogan. With Edwina Currie, MP, and Clive James. Music is provided by Kym Mazelle

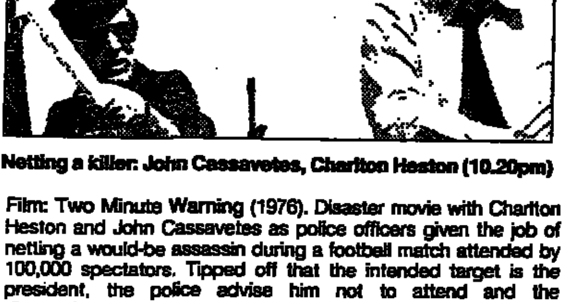
7.30 Joint Account. Tired role-reversal comedy starring Hannah Gordon as bank executive Belinda Braithwaite and Peter Egan as her stay-at-home husband (r). (Ceefax)

8.00 Fast Friends. Quiz show hosted by Les Dawson in which contestants select their teams from 40 speedily made "friends" in the hope of landing a bounty of mediocre prizes. (Ceefax)

8.30 Keeping Up Appearances. One-joke sitcom by Roy Clarke starring Patricia Routledge as Hyacinth, the queen of social etiquette, who invites the vicar and his wife to tea. As usual she plans every detail meticulously, down to the last sugar lump. But her plans soon turn awry when her two down-to-earth sisters arrive (r). (Ceefax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather

9.30 The Sharp End. Roy Clarke again, with the engaging comedy-drama starring Gwen Taylor as the head of a debt collection agency. As she faces more trials with her teenage daughter, sidekick Carmichael (James Cosmo) has problems of his own when he comes face-to-face with the dragon-like Mrs Moody (Nuala Willis). (Ceefax)



Netting a killer: John Cassavetes, Charlton Heston (10.20pm)

10.20 Film: Two Minute Warning (1976). Disaster movie with Charlton Heston and John Cassavetes as police officers given the job of netting a would-be assassin during a football match attended by 100,000 spectators. Tipped off that the intended target is the president, the police advise him *not* to attend and the disappointed would-be killer shoots randomly into the crowd. The plot rapidly descends into pointless slaughter. Directed by Larry Peerce. Northern Ireland: Country Times 11.10 Film: Murders in the Rue Morgue (1986)

12.10am Film: Spacehunter — Adventures in the Forbidden Zone (1983). Silly but often enjoyable sci-fi adventure starring Peter Strauss as an intergalactic bounty hunter who, with his young sidekick (Molly Ringwald), sets out to rescue three Earthwomen stranded on the planet Terra 11, an inhospitable land of strange animals and plague-carrying mutants. Directed by Lamont Johnson

1.35 Weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University. Equilibrium Rules OK?

8.00 News 8.15 Holiday Outings. A weekend break in York (r)

8.20 Cairo Vets. A *40 Minutes* film on Cairo's Brooke Hospital for animals, founded after the first world war to save cavalry horses abandoned in Egypt (r)

9.00 Daytime on Two

2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures 2.15 Weekend Outlook (r)

2.20 Film 91 with Barry Norman from the Cannes Film Festival (r)

3.00 Golf. The Volvo PGA Championship from Wentworth. Includes at 3.00 and 3.50 News and weather

6.00 Film: The Time Machine (1960). Careful, stolid adaptation of the H.G. Wells science-fiction yarn starring Rod Taylor, Alan Young and Yvette Mimieux. A Victorian scientist invents a time machine enabling him to travel into the future. Starting in London in 1899 he travels to 1917, 1940 and 1960 and each time finds himself in a strange, war-torn land. Taking a huge time-leap to the year AD802701, he seems finally to have reached an idyllic Earth from which war has been banished. Appearances prove deceptive however. The film won an Oscar for the special effects. Directed by George Pal. Wales: First Sight — A Racing Uncertainty 6.35 Malika's Hotel 7.15 Wales in Westminster

7.45 What the Papers Say. With Michael Leapman of the *Independent*

8.00 Public Eye: Teenage Sex — Facing the Facts of Life. Jenny Cuffe reports on the high level of pregnancies among under-age girls, half of which end in abortions. *Public Eye* asks why today's teenagers are having sex at an earlier age than their parents

8.30 Gardeners' World. Geoff Hamilton, Nigel Colborn and Anne Swithinbank report from the 1991 Chelsea Flower Show

9.00 The Real McCoy. Curtis and Ishmael, Llewella Gideon and Collette Johnson are joined by Dyam Fool Man, Idiot Boy and others for comedy sketches and music giving a black perspective on Britain's multi-cultural society

9.30 Your Life in Their Hands: A Proper Trust.

● CHOICE: A film about childbirth looks at how the process can be turned from a technical performance to a spontaneous human act, with the mother playing an active role. The idea is that the more the woman is involved in the birth, the fewer the difficulties. Now that women are quite prepared to have their babies in front of the television cameras, there is no lack of illustration. Some of it features the controversial Frenchman, Michel Odent, whose recipe for reducing foetal stress is to hold the mother virtually upright as she delivers. There is also a report on a service in Kidlington, under which the mother-to-be not only sticks with the same midwife throughout pregnancy but takes her into hospital. But the argument for non-intervention seems to fall apart in the film's other main example, where the birth is not straightforward and the nesting instinct has to take second place to technology. (Ceefax)

Racked with terror: Geraldine James and baby (10.20pm)

10.20 10x10: The Storm.

● CHOICE: Alan Griffin's mini-drama piles on almost every Gothic cliché you can think of and triumphantly gets away with it. Geraldine James is a woman marooned in the Australian outback with her baby. The infant is perpetually crying. Dad is away at the second world war, evoked by a crackling wireless. There is a thunderstorm, the door creaks, the curtains flap, the lights fail. Her face glistening with sweat and racked with terror, James faces two intruders, one human, one insect, both equally threatening. Griffin made this scary, atmospheric short as his graduation piece at the National Film and Television School. He is hoping to stretch it to a feature film. If he succeeds, it should be quite a stunner. Meanwhile prepare to be gripped by an impressive pilot, in which sound and image are powerfully combined and not a frame is wasted. And watch out for Liam Neeson, in the tiniest of bit parts

10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman. Includes a report by Mark Urban at the funeral of Rajiv Gandhi 11.15 Weather

11.20 Film: Hunger (1966, b/w). Worthy film adaptation of the Knut Hamsen novel starring Per Oscarsson as a starving writer who is forced to sleep rough in late 19th-century Norway. His anguished portrayal of a crazed dropout wandering the streets won Oscarsson the best actor award at the Cannes Film Festival. With Gunnel Lindblom and Sigrid Horne-Rasmussen. Directed by Henning Carlsen. (With subtitles) Ends at 1.15

ITV

6.00 TV-am

9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association quiz hosted by Lennie Bennett 9.55 Thames News and weather

10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion series

10.40 This Morning. Family magazine series

12.10 Rainbow. Educational fun for the very young

12.30 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 1.10 Thames News and weather

1.20 Home and Away 1.50 A Country Practice

2.20 The Health Experiment. Sebastian Coe presents the second in the health series extolling the virtues of a balanced diet and moderate exercise 2.50 Win, Lose or Draw. Danny Baker hosts the pen and paper charades game

3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors

3.55 Nellie the Elephant. Cartoon (r) 4.00 Rod 'n' Emu. First of a new series with Rod Hull and his hyperactive hand puppet 4.15 The Magic Crown. New animated swords and sorcery drama series 4.40 Finders Keepers. Neil Buchanan keeps order while hordes of children hunt for clues in a huge house

5.10 Home and Away (r)

5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock Live presented by Frank Bough. Includes Michael Aspel with news on how the ITV Telethon '90 funds were spent and interviews with M.C. Hammer and Jason Donovan. Followed by LWT Weather

6.55 The Day. With Chris as he prepares for his first Samaritans shift

Unlocking doors to the rich and famous: Eve Pollard (7.00pm)

7.00 Through the Keyhole. David Frost offers the rich and famous a chance to get their homes on television, while Loyd Grossman fawns over the doubtful decor and dishes out cryptic clues to celebrity panellists Eve Pollard, Willie Rushton and Katie Boyle. (Oracle)

7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)

8.00 Second Thoughts. Lynda Bellingham and James Bolam star in the cheerful sitcom about the joys and frustrations of love and marriage the second time around. (Oracle)

8.30 The Piglet Files: The Wrong Combination. Thin spy comedy with Nicholas Lyndhurst as the gormless MI5 agent code-named Piglet. (Oracle)

9.00 A Perfect Hero. Second episode of the solidly crafted drama series starring Nigel Havers as a rich and dashing second world war pilot who receives horrific burns in a Battle of Britain dogfight. As he lies in hospital, dreading the time when his girlfriend Bunty (Fiona Gillies) will see his mutilated face, plastic surgeon Angus Meikle (James Fox) helps him to rebuild his life. With Bernard Hepton and Barbara Leigh-Hunt as the parents. Adapted by the *Z-Cars* and *Softly Softly* veteran Allan Prior from the novel by Christopher Matthew and directed by James Cellan Jones of *Fortunes of War* (Oracle)

10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Alastair Stewart. (Oracle) Weather 10.35 LWT News and weather followed by The Day

10.40 The London Programme. Pit bull terriers — will the government's proposals work in London?

11.10 Hooperman. American comedy series starring John Ritter as an unconventional policeman

11.40 The Young Riders. Adventures of six Pony Express riders in 1860s Dakota, starring Josh Brolin and Melissa Yeo. The riders discover they are harbouring an escaped slave who is wanted for murder

12.35am Married...With Children. American blue-collar marital comedy starring Ed O'Neill and Katey Sagal as heads of the unashamedly vulgar Bundy family

1.05 The James Whale Show. More phone-ins, superficial banter and music with the argumentative DJ

2.05 Raw Power. Rock videos

3.05 CinemAttractions. Charlie Tuna presents a review of the latest US cinema releases

3.35 Beach Volleyball from Fort Myers, Florida

4.30 Soap. Manic American comedy series featuring the outrageous Tate and Campbell families (r)

5.05 Superboy. Adventures of the junior super-hero (John Haymes Newton), alias college boy Clark Kent

5.30 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily 9.25 Schools

12.00 Noah's Ark: The Guano Birds. Spanish natural history series

12.30 Business Daily presented by Susannah Simons

1.00 Sesame Street. For pre-school children

2.00 A Full Life. Charlton Heston chats to Jill Cochrane about his Hollywood career (r)

2.30 Film: Frieda (1947, b/w)

● CHOICE: When Ealing was not turning out comedies it was usually addressing social issues of the day. At the time, at least, its "serious" films often had more impact. Made two years after the end of the second world war, *Frieda* handled the tricky subject of how far Britain was prepared to forgive the recent enemy. Mai Zetterling had her first English-speaking role as a German girl who helps an RAF officer (David Farrar) to escape from a prisoner-of-war camp. In gratitude he marries her and brings her back to England, where she runs into hostility and prejudice. Based on a play by Ronald Millar, more recently famous as a speech writer for Mrs Thatcher, the film's liberal sympathies are clear. But the complexity of the Farrar character in particular makes this a less straightforward piece than is suggested by the contemporary publicity slogan: "Would you want your son to marry a German woman?"

4.20 Story of the Foolish Husband. Animation from the Soviet Union

4.30 Fifteen-to-One

5.00 I Love Lucy (b/w) Classic American sitcom from the Fifties

5.30 The Triple Net: The White Road. A repeat of the series exploring the work of 20th century Welsh writers. Iola Gregory plays Kate Roberts (r). (Teletext)

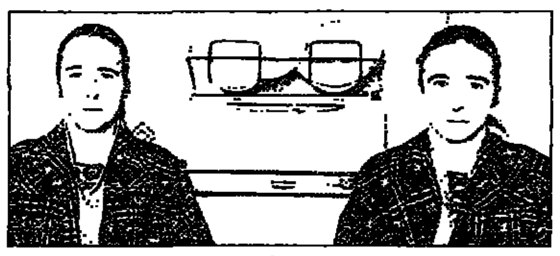
6.00 Kate & Allie. Sitcom about two divorced women sharing a Greenwich Village apartment (r)

6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are comedian Mike McShane, newspaperman-turned-novelist Eddy Shah and boxers Chris Eubank and Michael Watson

7.00 Channel 4 News with Nicholas Owen and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext)

7.50 First Reaction. Billy Bragg on Bob Dylan at 50

8.00 Brookside. Liverpudlian soap. (Teletext)



Living in each other's shadow: Greta and Freda Chaplin (8.30pm)

8.30 Short Stories: A Pair Of One.

● CHOICE: Greta and Freda Chaplin are identical twins whose togetherness has become an obsession. Now in their late forties, they have never lived apart and are reluctant to leave the house on their own. After an unfortunate brush with a neighbour, they rely on a retired textile engineer, Jack Davenport, to protect them from prying eyes. They talk in unison, dress identically in bizarre clothes and even vacuum the floor together. To the outsider it will seem very sad. Told to stick together by their mother, who also advised them to stay clear of men, they were later rejected by their parents and not allowed into the family home. Every three weeks they travelled to York, where they hid behind a hedge hoping to snatch a glimpse of their mother and father. Juliet Darling's film boils down nine hours of interviews with the twins to give a searching insight into their strange and stunted life. (Teletext)

9.00 Cheers. American sitcom set in a cosy Boston bar. (Teletext)

9.30 Dig includes a tour of an unusual Notting Hill garden and a look at Douglas Maxwell's bean cathedral. (Teletext)

10.00 Roseanne. American comedy series. (Teletext)

10.30 Absolutely. Patchy comedy sketches written and performed by Morwenna Banks, Jack Docherty, Moray Hunter, Gordon Kennedy, Peter Baikie and John Sparkes

11.00 Friday At The Dome. Live music from London's Kilburn National from Andrew Roachford, Karl Wallinger, Transvision Vamp and Big Dish. Plus an interview with Wendy James

12.15am Six Of The Best with Jonathan Ross. A repeat of Monday's programme from the Cannes Film Festival in which the guests were Kylie Minogue, Timothy Dalton and the director of Madonna's new film, Alek Keshishian

12.45 Film: Fingers at the Window (1942, b/w). Sluggish thriller starring Basil Rathbone as a psychotic who hypnotises patients at a lunatic asyluminto committing murder so that he can claim an inheritance. Then a dancer (Laraine Day), who knew him under his previous name, joins a theatrical producer (former *Dr Kildare* star, Lew Ayres) to halt his murderous progress. There are good moments but the film cannot decide how seriously to take itself. Directed by Charles Lederer. Ends at 2.20

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Blockbusters 6.00 Home and Away 6.25-7.00 Anglia News 10.40 Cross Question 11.40 Married...With Children 12.10am-1.05 Wolf 2.05 Video View 2.35 Gilbert's Late 3.05 Friday the 13th 4.00 College Football 5.00-5.30 Inter Bangi

BORDER

As London except: 6.00pm Lookaround Friday 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 10.40 The Union and the League 11.10 Murphy's Law 12.10-1.05 Friday the 13th 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 Film: All Coppers Are...

CENTRAL

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 My Secret Identity 6.00 Home and Away 6.25-7.00 Central News 10.40 Central Weekend 12.10am-1.05 Prisoner: Cell Block H 2.05 Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space 3.35 The Hit Man and Her 4.35-5.30 Central Jobfinder

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Gardening Time 6.00 North Tonight 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 10.40 The Art Sutter Show 11.40 Hooperman 12.10am Alfred Hitchcock Presents 12.35-1.05 NB 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 Film: All Coppers Are...

GRANADA

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Give Us a Clue 6.00 Home and Away 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight 10.40 Granada Up Front 11.40 Hooperman 12.10am-1.05 Friday the 13th 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 All Coppers Are...

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 A Country Practice 6.00 HTV West 6.30-7.00 HTV Sportsweek 10.40 Scene '91 11.10-11.40 Randy Sabien Quartet

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six 6.30-7.00 Stopwatch 10.40-11.40 Swansea Festival

SCOTTISH

As London except: 3.25pm-3.55 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 10.40 Hooperman 11.10-1.05 Dial-A-Movie 2.05 NB 2.35 America's Top Ten 3.05 Stephen King's World of Horror 4.00 Mystery Theatre 4.35 The Jacksons 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

TSW

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Sullivans 3.20-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Taxi 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Gardens For All 10.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H 11.40 Hooperman 12.10-1.05 Friday the 13th 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 Film: All Coppers Are...

TVS

As London except: 3.25pm-3.55 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.20 Police 5 6.30-7.00 That's Gardening 10.40 After the News 11.40 Hooperman 12.10-1.05 Wolf 2.05 The Young Riders 3.00 Raw Power 4.00 Coach 4.30-5.30 Channon & Ball

TYNE TEES

As London except: 6.00pm Northern Life 6.30-7.00 The Friday Documentary 10.40 Point of Order 11.15 A Seat in the Stands 12.00 Heart of the Country 12.10-1.05 Friday the 13th 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 Film: All Coppers Are...

ULSTER

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Sons and Daughters 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Sportsbeat 10.40 12.05-1.05 Beauty and the Beast 2.05 The Young Riders 2.55 Night Beat 3.55-5.30 Film: All Coppers Are...

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55pm-2.20 Graham Kerr 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 The Wonderful World of Soaps 10.40 Film: Man on a String 12.05am-1.05 Friday the 13th — the Series 2.05 Bhangra Beat 2.35-5.30 Eastern Cinema: Upkar

S4C

Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily 9.25 Ysgolion 12.00 Sbectel 12.10 Pobol Y Cwm 12.30 Newyddion 12.40 Slot Meithrin 1.00 Fifteen to One 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 Civil War 2.30 Film: They Shall Have Music* 4.25 The Oprah Winfrey Show 5.15 Brookside 5.45 Heno 6.00 Newyddion 6.10 Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7.00 Dinas 7.30 O Fan I Fan 8.00 Resio 8.30 Newyddion 8.55 Winnie 9.25 Lip Synch 9.30 Just for Laughs 10.00 Cheers 10.30 Absolutely 11.05 Friday at the Dome 12.20 The Week with Jonathan Ross 12.50 Film: Fingers at the Window* 2.20 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 12.40pm Oireachtas Report 1.00 News 1.35 Crusade in the Pacific 2.05 GP 3.00 Live at Three 4.00 News followed by Sons and Daughters 4.30 The Forsyte Saga 5.15 Out of Limits 5.30 The Sullivans 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 Six-One 7.00 Play the Game 7.35 Around the World in Eighty Days 8.30 Shakin' All Over 9.00 News 9.30 The Late Late Show 11.35 News followed by Film: The Enforcer 1.25 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 2.35p Bosco 3.00 The Den 6.00 Get Smart 6.25 Home and Away 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 World of Horses 7.30 Coronation Street 8.00-9.00 News followed by Sportsworld

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.35 Mrs Pepperpot 8.45 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 The Lucy Show 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.20 Santa Barbara 2.45 Wife of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 Growing Pains 8.00 Riptide 9.00 Hunter 10.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 11.00 Film. Terror Out of the Sky (1978) 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. News on the hour.

5.00am Newswatch 6.00 Sunrise 9.30 Newsline 10.00 Dayline 10.30 Those Were the Days 11.00 International Business Report 11.30 Dayline 12.30pm NBC Today 1.30 CBS News 2.30 Parliament 3.30 The Lords 4.30 Those Were the Days 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsline 8.30 Those Were the Days 10.30 Newsline 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 CBS News 3.30 NBC News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY MOVIES+

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am Showcase, incl at 8.40 Entertainment Tonight

10.00 I Will Fight No More Forever (1975): Dramatisation of a real-life confrontation between an Indian chief and the US calvary. Starring James Whitmore and Ned Romero

12.00 Dream Chasers (1985): A boy with a fatal illness and an old man take off for Wyoming, the home state of the legendary Butch Cassidy. Starring Harold Gould

2.00pm The Amazing Howard Hughes — Part Two (1977): Tommy Lee Jones stars as the reclusive millionaire

4.00 Club Med (1986): Romantic comedy about the amorous adventures of five holidaymakers. Starring Jack Scalia and Patrick Macnee

5.40 Entertainment Tonight

6.00 Ghost Chase (1988): A teenage film-maker and a ghost conspire to bring down a Hollywood mogul. Starring Jason Lively and Paul Gleeson

8.00 No Holds Barred (1989): A champion wrestler (WWF superstar Hulk Hogan) fights corruption in the sporting world

9.40 US Top Ten

10.00 Hellbound: Hellraiser II (1989): Kirsty's stepmother makes her life a living hell. Starring Clare Higgins and Ashley Laurence

11.35 The Hitcher (1986): A teenager becomes involved in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse on America's deserted highways. Starring Rutger Hauer and C. Thomas Howell

1.10am Return of the Living Dead (1985): Comedy-horror about a group of punks who encounter the living dead in a mortuary

2.50 Bird (1988). Forest Whitaker and Diane Venora star in the powerful dramatisation of the hard life and fast times of the legendary jazz musician Charlie Parker. Ends at 5.25

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.15am Champion (1949): Kirk Douglas stars as an unscrupulous boxer

8.15 Under Two Flags (1936): Romantic drama about a Foreign Legionnaire caught between two beautiful women. Starring Ronald Coleman and Claudette Colbert

10.15 Overlord (1975): Semi-documentary drama about a second world war soldier, from call-up to the D-day landings. Starring Brian Stirner

12.15pm Whoopee! (1930): Busby Berkeley musical, starring Eddie Cantor

2.15 The Adventures of Marco Polo (1938): Biopic tracing the adventures of the Italian explorer. Starring Gary Cooper

4.15 Columbo Cries Wolf (1990): The dishevelled detective investigates a magazine owner suspected of killing his lover. Starring Peter Falk

6.15 Roman Holiday 2 (1987): A princess runs away and falls in love with a handsome reporter. Starring Catherine Oxenberg and Tom Conti

8.15 La Bamba (1987): Musical biography of the rock 'n' roll singer Richie Valens. Starring Lou Diamond Phillips

10.15 Born in East L.A. (1987): Comedy starring Cheech Marin as a deported illegal immigrant trying to re-enter the United States

11.40 The Island (1980): A modern-day reporter is captured by a colony of 18th century pirates. Starring Michael Caine and David Warner

1.40am The Principal (1987): Classroom comedy starring James Belushi as a headteacher, who is assigned to the roughest and toughest school in the district. Co-stars Lou Gossett Jr

3.30 Final Notice (1990): A private eye discovers a link between petty crime in the local library and a series of brutal murders. Starring Gil Gerard and Melody Anderson. Ends at 5.00

SKY SPORTS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 9.30am Cricket. First Texaco One-Day International — England v West Indies at Edgbaston 11.00 Argentina v USSR at Old Trafford 1.30pm Motor World 2.00 Live World Team Cup Tennis 5.00 Waterskiing 6.00 Rodeo 7.00 Red Line 8.00 Matchroom League Snooker 10.00 World Team Cup Tennis 12.00 Matchroom League Snooker

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 7.00 French Sport 7.30 International Speedway 8.30 French Rugby League Cup Final 10.00 USWA Wrestling 11.00 Indy Car 12.00 Motor Sport F3000 1.00pm French Sport 1.30 Motor News 2.00 Live International Tennis 3.30 International Cycling 4.00 La Vuelta Cycling Tour of Spain 5.00 Mud and Monsters 6.00 Live International Tennis 7.30 British Motor Sport 8.00 Dutch Motor Sport 9.00 NBA Basketball 11.00 US Pro Boxing 12.30am NHL Ice Hockey 2.30 PGA Golf Tour 4.30 World Snooker Classics 6.30 Spain Sport 6.45 Ladies Pro Bowling

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.

10.00am Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout 11.50 Wok with Yan 12.15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1.05 Star Time 1.10 Search for Tomorrow 1.40 The Edge of Night 2.05 Divorce Court 2.30 Lifestyle Plus 2.40 The Tom Ewel Show 3.10 Rafferty's Rules 4.00 Tea Break 4.10 The Mothers-in-Law 4.40 Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 8.00 Close 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.

Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only): Modern Art — Blaue Reiter

6.55 Weather; News Headlines

7.00 Morning Concert: Suppé (Overture, Light Cavalry: Berlin PO under von Karajan); Puccini (O mio babbino caro, Gianni Schicchi: Munich RO under Patanè); Handel (Organ Concerto in F, Op 4 No 4: English Concert under Pinnock)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Strachey (These Foolish Things: Oscar Peterson and Count Basie, pianos, Freddie Green, guitar, Ray Brown, bass, Louie Bellson, drums); Bernstein (Three Dance Episodes, On the Town: Israel PO under Bernstein); Porter, arr Shearing (I've Got You under My Skin: Barry Tuckwell, horn, George Shearing, piano); Rodrigo (Concierto madrigal: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Marriner)

8.30 News

8.35 Composers of the Week: Haydn (Nocturne in F, H II 26; Cantata, Arianna a Naxos, H XXVIb 2; Symphony No 95 in C minor)

9.35 Dished Up by Mahler: Suite from Works by Bach (Berlin RSO under Lopez-Cobos); Revelge; Das irdische Leben, Des Knaben Wunderhorn (LSO under Szell); Piano Quartet Movement (Domus); Lob des hohen Verstandes; Des Antonius von Padua Fischpredigt, Des Knaben Wunderhorn); Schubert, arr Mahler (String Quartet in D minor, D 810, Death and the Maiden: ECO under Tate); Mahler (Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen: Bavarian RSO under Kubelik)

11.35 Mozart Choral Works: The second of four programmes with the BBC Singers and the London Mozart Players under Simon Joly. Mozart (Overture, Die Zauberflöte; Piano Concerto No 24 in C minor, K 491, Concert aria, Ch'io mi scordi di te? K 505; Coronation Mass, K 317, incl 12.15pm Interval Reading

1.00 News

1.05 BBC Festival of Brass: Paul Hindmarsh introduces the seventh of eight concerts. CWS Glasgow Band under John Hudson performs Heaton (March, Praise); Horovitz (Ballet for Band); Robert Simpson (Energy); Wilson (Sinfonietta); Elgar, arr J.D. Williams (Triumphal March, Caractacus)

2.00 Listening to . . . Birtwistle (r)

3.00 Mining the Archive: The pianist Claudio Arrau in a recital first broadcast in March 1959. Schoenberg (Three Pieces, Op 11). 3.14 Claudio Arrau talks with Robert Layton. 3.25 Schubert (Three Pieces, D 946)

4.00 BBC SO under Esa-Pekka Salonen performs Berwald (Symphonie singulière); Rautavaara (Symphony No 5)

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure, with Jeremy Beadle

6.30 Two's Company: In the last of four programmes, Charles Melville looks at big bands with two leaders, including the Coon-Sanders Nighthawks and the Dorsey Brothers' Orchestra

7.00 News

7.05 Third Ear: Edwin Mullins discusses the work of the French neo-impressionist Georges Seurat

7.30 Debussy (Cello Sonata: Mstislav Rostropovich, cello, Benjamin Britten, piano)

7.45 Bath Festival 1991: Live from Wells Cathedral. Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Libor Pešek, with Kyung-Wha Chung, violin performs Dvořák (The Golden Spinning Wheel, Op 109); Suk (Symphonic poem, Praga). 8.30 Dear Joachim — Dear Brahms. Calum MacDonald presents correspondence between the violinist and the composer which resulted in the Violin and Double Concertos. 8.50 Brahms (Violin Concerto in D, Op 77)

9.45 The 14 Resurrections of Miguel Marmol: A compilation of interviews and readings about the Salvadorean trade unionist (r)

10.30 Dallapiccola and the Voice: Graham Fawcett with the second of two programmes. New London Chamber Choir and Ensemble under James Wood, with Sarah Leonard, soprano, performs Gesualdo, arr Stravinsky (Tres cantiones sacrae); Dallapiccola (Goethe Lieder; Canti di Prigionia)

11.30 News

11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: Bax (r)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.58 Weather

9.00 News

9.05 Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is John Simpson, BBCtv's foreign affairs editor (s) (r)

9.45 The Village

● CHOICE: Clearly, last Christmas's first series of the real-life chronicles of Bentley, Hants, was deemed a success, for here's a second, even better than the first. Poor Kevin loses his factory job just when he and his wife are considering buying their council house, the bellringers of St Mary's try to avoid the fate of the sexton's wife (yanked 50ft up into the belfry by the rope of the tenor bell), and the spiritualist medium who once sat on graves talking to their occupants is about to enter an upstairs room with a permanent cold spot. Repeated on Sunday at 6.15pm

10.00 News; Special Assignment

10.30 Morning Story: Iphigenia, by Rosemary Southey. Read by Blythe Duff

10.45 Daily Service (s)

11.00 News; Friday Lives: Joanna Buchan introduces extraordinary tales about people from all walks of life (s)

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Debbie Thrower

12.25pm The Food Programme examines the influence of immigrants on the British diet and looks at British food companies' technological exports to the Ukraine 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Woman's Hour: From Bristol. Features an item on the role of the male escort

3.00 News; Classic Serial: The Hunchback of Notre Dame. *The Feast of Fools*, the first of a five-part dramalisation by Catherine L. Czerkawska of Victor Hugo's tale of doomed love and the fear of sorcery. With Jack Klaff as Quasimodo and Emily Morgan as Esmeralda (s) (r)

4.00 News

4.05 Fourth Column: On the occasion of the anniversary of the first Eurovision Song Contest, Simon Hoggart and company take a quizzical look at the world around them

4.30 Kaleidoscope: Includes a report on the Royal Institute of British Architects' annual conference on the survival of the city; and reviews of David Pownall's *Stagg and His Mother*; and *The Crooked Wood* at the King's Head Theatre, London (s)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report

6.30 Going Places: Travel and transport magazine

7.00 News

7.05 The Archers

7.20 Pick of the Week, with Margaret Howard (s)

8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is joined in Formby, Lancashire, by Edwina Currie, MP; Anthony Sampson, writer and journalist; Chris Mullins, MP; and Nicholas Hinton, director general of Save the Children Fund

8.50 Stop Press: Geoffrey Goodman casts his eye over the week's press and the newspaper business

9.15 Kaleidoscope: Six String Surprises (s) (r)

9.45 Letter from America by Alistair Cook 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight (s)

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Heartstones, by Ruth Rendell. Read by Oona Beeson (final part) (s)

11.00 Week Ending: David Tate, Sally Grace, Brian Bowles and Paul Shearer with a satirical review of the week's news (s)

11.25 The Financial Week (s)

11.45 Return Ticket: Michael Johnston recalls the first H-bomb test at Christmas Island in 1957 (r)

12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.9

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am Gary King (FM only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News '91 6.00 Round Table 7.30 The Essential Selection 10.00 The Friday Rock Show 12.00-4.00am Andy Peebles Double Bill (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Alex Lester: The Early Show 6.00 Ken Bruce 7.30 Gyles Brandreth 9.30 Debbie Greenwood 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford 4.00 Max Bygraves 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Mind Your Own Business! The Party Spirit 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night 9.30 Listen to the Band 10.00 Radio 2 Arts Programme: Live from the Brighton international festival 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Geoff Oxley with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: News and 24 Hours 6.30 Morning Edition, incl at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News; Sport 9.00 Take Five 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 This Family Business: 0345 909 693, incl 11.00, 12.00 News; Sport 12.30pm Caribbean Magazine 1.00 News, Sport 1.03 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (r) 1.20 Mega Mix 2.30 World Service. Global Concerns 2.45 The International Money Programme 3.00 News; Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Focus on Faith 4.00 News, Sport 4.05 Network UK 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain (5 of 10) 7.35 King Street Junior: Priorities. A comedy drama by Jim Eldridge (r) 8.00 Multitrack II 8.30 Afro Pop 9.30 Calling the Shots: Derek Jarman. The second of an eight-part series profiling British film directors 10.00 News; Sport 10.10 Rave, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.30 The World Today 5.45 News Headlines in English and French 5.47 British Press Review 5.52 World Business Report 5.57 Travel and Weather News 6.00 World News 6.30 Londres Midi 6.59 Weather 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 Meridian 8.00 World News 8.09 24 Hours, News Summary 8.30 The Overseas Chinese 9.00 World News 9.09 Words of Faith 9.15 Music Review 10.00 World News 10.09 World Business Report 10.15 Global Concerns 10.30 Seven Seas 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News Summary 11.01 Focus on Faith 11.30 Londres Midi 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 11.59 Weather 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Meridian 1.00 World News 1.09 News About Britain 1.15 The Overseas Chinese 1.45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Off the Shelf: Dracula, part ten 3.45 The Learning World 4.00 World News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World and British News 5.15 BBC English 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 The World Today 6.29 News Summary 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German features 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15 Londres Dernière 8.30 The Overseas Chinese 9.00 World News 9.09 The World Today 9.25 Words of Faith 9.30 Science in Action 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.05 Pop into the Movies, part four 11.20 People and Politics 11.50 Sports Roundup 12.00 World News 12.05am World Business Report 12.15 Worldbrief 12.30 Multitrack 3 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 From the Weeklies 1.45 Recording of the Week 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Short Story: One of my Own 2.45 Here's Humph 3.00 Newsdesk 3.30 People and Politics 4.00 World News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 The Vintage Chart Show: May 1975 4.45 News and Features in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

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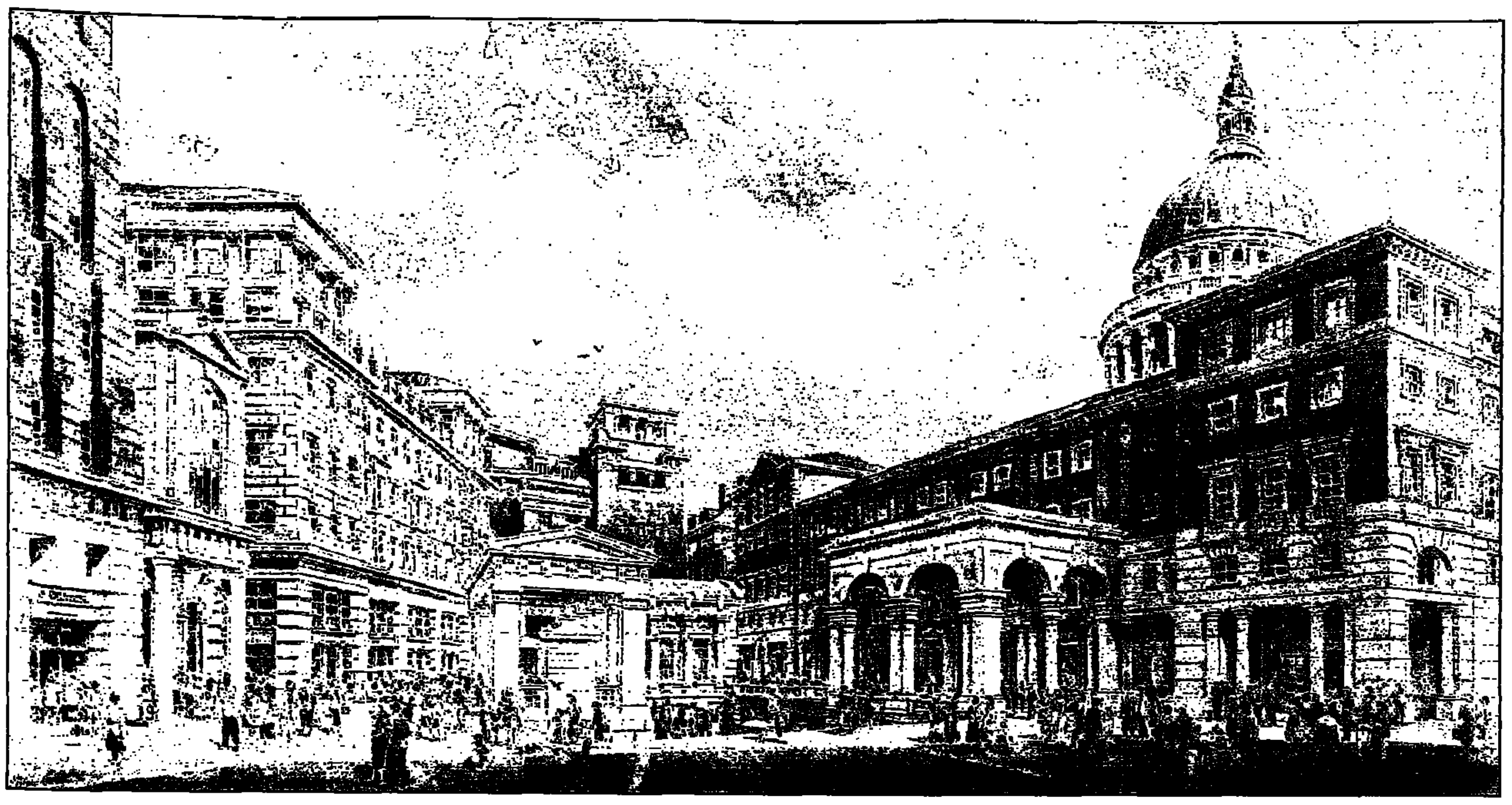


Classical compromise: a model showing the central square and the lower court, "filled with little temples", to the north of St Paul's Cathedral

Classical revival goes on trial at St Paul's

Continued from page 1

Nikolaus Pevsner praised it as "a brilliant essay in the English tradition of informal planning translated boldly into a C20 language". Even Pevsner was a little disappointed when the precinct was finished in 1967. This was partly owing to the banality of the shoe-box buildings designed by the Church Commissioners' architects, Trehearne & Norman, Preston & Partners, but the reasons for its failure go deeper. Holford's insistence on a 90° grid meant that ancient street lines were ignored. Raising the piazza on a 10ft podium over a car park resulted in the precinct being not a welcoming space but a barrier.

Now all this is to go and the site will return to more its pre-war character with a much denser development. There will still be a public space, for the barren piazza will be replaced by a smaller Paternoster Square, an echo of the old Newgate Market once on the site. This square, filled with little temples allowing access to the basement arcades and St Paul's station, will be surrounded by Classical buildings of remarkable elaboration

As a reward for his earlier alternative Classical scheme for the site, which secured royal approval, John Simpson is allowed to surround the Chapter House with four and five-storey Italianate ranges. Further away from St Paul's the buildings rise to nine storeys and the architects show determination to introduce variety.

Thomas Beeby offers a massive block with rooftop pavilions like a bank of the 1930s by Sir Herbert Baker; Allan Greenberg has designed in the vigorous manner of Lutyens, topped by big chimneys which should look good from the dome of St Paul's (an important consideration); Demetri Porthyrios looks to Schinkel, Greek Thomson and early Asplund for inspiration; Robert Adam is more conventionally Palladian; Sidell Gibson propose a block in the Victorian industrial Romanesque manner, while Quinlan Terry offers his usual copybook Palladianism piled up like a cake.

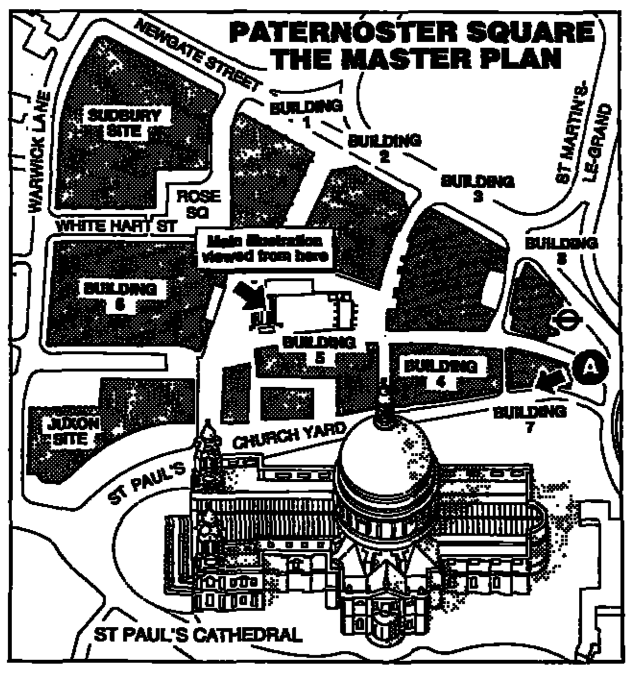
To me, the best buildings are by Terry Farrell. One of his blocks has the stepped-back, rusticated buttresses of Lutyens' Midland Bank.

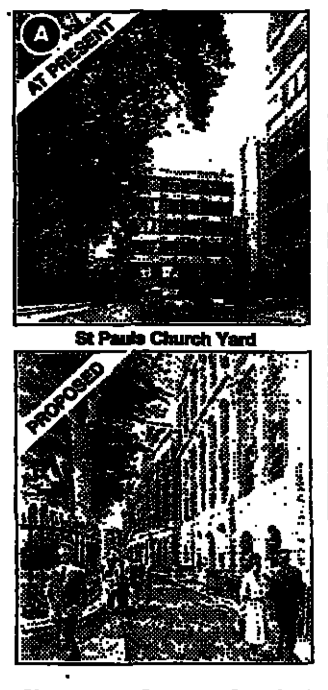
The beautiful drawings suggest that these buildings will be made of good materials and be properly detailed. They will be unlike the terrible blocks at Canary Wharf, where prefabricated Classical skins are hung on steel frames. Many will hate them purely because they are Classical; many will love them for that reason.

The best thing about the Paternoster Square scheme is its splendid plan. The prewar street pattern is restored with Paternoster Row winding from Cheapside and with the north side of St Paul's Churchyard properly enclosed to afford dramatic glimpses of Wren's cathedral. Newgate Street is to be lined again with decent facades, while the greatest boon is that the raised podium is swept away and a ground level restored for the pedestrian. Life should return to this dead part of the City.

There remain obtacles, for Sudbury House, the most offensive 16-storey block which ruins views of St Paul's from the north-west, and the octagonal building over the Tube station both remain in separate ownership and are not yet part of the planning application.

Fortunately, the owners of notorious Juxon House have entered into the spirit of things and have commissioned a replacement from William Whitfield. This will come right up to the old building line and will thus preserve the enclosed nature of the west front seen from the curved, asymmetrical approach of Ludgate Hill. The City has always been commercial: that is its strength, its character, its interest. A dense commercial development, not too high but filling most of the available space, is the proper setting for St Paul's — a great monument founded on compromise. Appropriately, therefore, Paternoster Associates now propose another compromise — between public expectations and commercial realities; and between the irregular street pattern of the City and formal Classical architecture. But that compromise has been achieved before and is the essence of the English tradition. This scheme therefore deserves to be built — in its entirety.





St Pauls Church Yard

Political sketch

Tamed Tory rolls out the clichés

A NOTICE at the Commons press gallery announces that reporters "*may now wear shirtsleeves*". Playing safe and retaining my trousers, I went in. MPs were gathering in their playpen for a final romp before the Spring break.

First came foreign office minister Douglas Hogg, answering a debate on relations with Israel. In Mr Hogg a transformation has occured. This Jack Russell of a minister now masquerades as a bonsai St Bernard.

Some say that God, looking down on mankind and seeing how short in stature some of his creatures were to be, made the small ones more aggressive, to compensate. But I think that, looking down on the young Hogglet and seeing how aggressive he was going to be, God made him small, to limit the damage.

Last year, even Mr Hogg was forced to recognise the problem. After a session in which he simply barked wildly at the opposition for three quarters of an hour, a Labour backbencher shouted "woof!" and the whole opposition began barking. Something had to be done. Hogg took advice. Backstage designers got to work.

This year the New Hogg was unveiled. Serene, monumental, the new Hogg fixes his eyes upon the common good, and never rises to the bait. He has become a man of gritty majesty.

And it works. The small Hogg is now being taken seriously by all who do not know him. There was one regrettable lapse with Greville Janner (Lab, Leicester W) on Wednesday, but we shall not speak of that. Yesterday, statesmanship was resumed.

It was a masterly. Opening the debate had been Michael Latham, the Conservative MP for Rutland and Melton who is giving up at the next election because he is fed up with politics. Latham has been a long-standing but not unthinking friend of Israel and made a fine speech, perhaps his last on the subject. It was, said the young Hogg (rolling the phrase round in his mouth) "a contribution of unusual distinction".

Nor was that all he said. He said that "if we do not see peace then we face the prospect of war". To this he added the wise thought that "the first step to progress in negotiation is to get the parties to sit down together at the table". The platitudes rolled. The minister was on auto-plat, full of dignity.

Impressively, this was done without notes. Looking down, I saw that he had no text, just a couple of handwritten jottings. A depressing feature of modern Tory ministers is that even their clichés need to be scripted, but Mr Hogg is of the old school and can reach into his own soul for homily. In due course he sat down, justifiably content.

Next came dogs. Bob Cryer (Lab, Bradford S) had reconsidered his intervention the day before, in which he had limited himself to an attack on rottweilers and dobermanns. Today he added lurchers, alsatians, bull terriers and collies to his hit-list, and there was the obligatory reference to "little Rucksana Khan". It is no disrespect to this unlucky girl to say that the sight of Mr Cryer wiping a tear from his eye at her plight brings to mind the wolf in *Little Red Riding Hood*.

A little later, after David Amess (C, Basildon) had addressed an empty Chamber on "active citizenship," the Commons rose.

They left the Lords to debate "a non-pop national commercial radio station". Peers want a special channel to promote artistes who were once household names, but long ago: nothing popular "after 1960".

Why? Isn't one House of Lords enough?

MATTHEW PARRIS

Prince of Wales invites architects to present plans

By CHARLES KNEVITT
ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

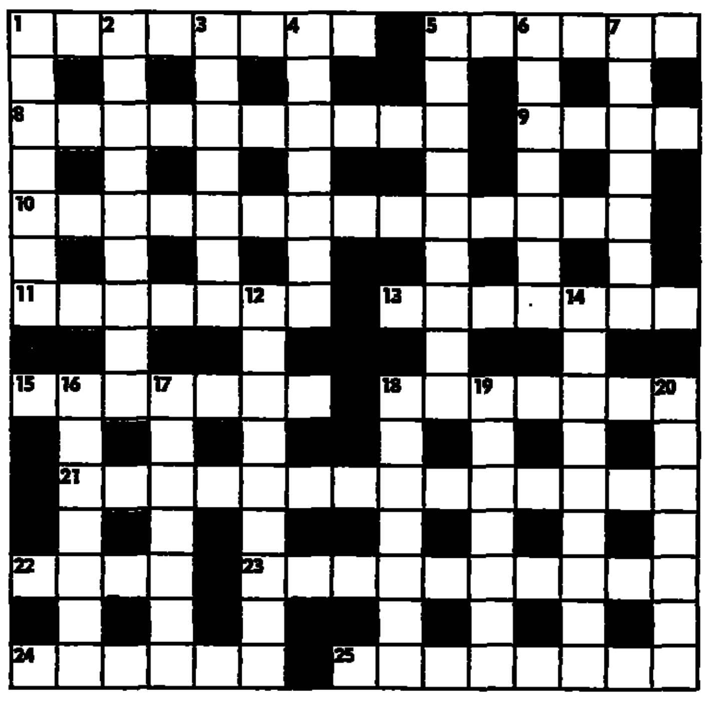
THE Prince of Wales won his four-year campaign to let the public have a say over the future of Paternoster Square, north of St Paul's Cathedral, yesterday when he unveiled the £800 million Classical master plan for the seven-acre site.

Opening the exhibition, the Prince said that he had watched "with interest and concern" proposals for the site. The City did not belong to any one interest group and now there was an opportunity "for all of us who *do* care" to see what the area could be like, he said. But he failed to endorse the scheme and may share others' reservations about the height and bulk of some of the buildings and a sunken courtyard which was added last month. He spent 45 minutes at the exhibition of photographs, plans, models and drawings and invited the developers and architects involved to Highgrove to present their plans.

A planning application will be submitted next month and might take a year to win approval, after consultations. Demolition would take three months and building about three years, with completion 1995, by when the commercial property market should have improved. Mr Peter Rees, the City planner, speaking in a private capacity said the Classical design made his "flesh creep" but that would not affect the decision.

● The exhibition at Paternoster Square shopping centre is open from tomorrow for three weeks, 10 am-6.30 pm Mon-Fri (including the bank holiday; 10 am-4 pm Saturdays.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,614



ACROSS
1 An artistic visionary? (8).
5 Greek youth's epistle to heavenly waitress (6).
8 Internal disorder such a person may suffer? (5,5).
9 Crompton's slipper (4).
10 State the drink after Trollope's duke makes a funny mixture (6,8).
11 Not much water in the river — take fish out of it (7).
13 Stone, black as coal (7).
15 Grease crust as cattle food (7).
18 Made light by new-fangled dieting (7).
21 Giving in after note to resume, say (14).
22 Is it necessary to abuse minister in the House? Yes! (4).
23 Next time church needs jumble, let's have some action! (10).
24 An assortment of plungers (5).
25 Abandon plane — it's on a collision course (8).

DOWN
1 Dismissal order following general strike (4,3).
2 The emasculated bird is a hummer (9).
3 Eggs over a dollar? Sounds dear (7).
4 Signboard on the beach (7).
5 Worldly person finds there's money in doing electrical work (9).
6 Continuous low sound on musical instrument is monotonous (7).
7 Peel's town-crier (7).
12 Writers of a reddish hue, such as Wordsworth and Co (4,5).
14 They clear the way, to use Dorrit's version (9).
16 Hands of the Hispaniola with one nationality (7).
17 Snow's oceanic movements (7).
18 Fashionable upper-class hat is rarely unprofitable (7).
19 The closest listener in the snuggery (7).
20 Saintly archbishop, a gloomy, small man (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,613

D	U	S	T	J	A	C	K	E	T	■	S	E	R	F
U	■	U	■	A	■	A	■	X	■	■	■	M	■	A
M	U	S	I	C	S	T	O	O	L	■	P	E	R	I
P	■	T	■	K	■	A	■	D	■	S	■	R	■	R
■	R	A	N	I	■	P	L	U	T	O	N	I	U	M
E	■	I	■	N	■	U	■	S	■	N	■	T	■	I
M	I	N	U	T	E	L	Y	■	U	G	R	I	A	N
B	■	■	■	H	■	T	■	K	■	A	■	■	■	D
L	E	D	G	E	R	■	P	I	N	N	A	C	L	E
E	■	U	■	B	■	V	■	C	■	D	■	E	■	D
M	U	N	G	O	P	A	R	K	■	D	O	L	E	■
A	■	K	■	X	■	L	■	S	■	A	■	L	■	A
T	R	I	P	■	P	O	T	H	U	N	T	I	N	G
I	■	R	■	■	■	U	■	A	■	C	■	S	■	I
C	A	K	E	■	B	R	O	W	B	E	A	T	E	N

The Jumbo prize crossword with concise clues is published tomorrow

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

AUREOLE
a. First dawn
b. A nipple
c. Radiance

AILUROMANIA
a. Moon madness
b. Celebrity worship
c. Obsession with cats

HAGIARCHY
a. Government by holy men
b. The law books in the Bible
c. Beginning with the prophets

SWATCH
a. To mow grass
b. A fabric sample
c. A backhand sword slash

Answers on page 18

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

Concise crossword, page 17

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ADD PMI TO PHI?
Total security and big premium savings. Ask WPA about linking private medical insurance with PHI.
Make sure with
WPA
Health Insurance
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Tel: 0272 234634. Fax: 0272 225677.

WEATHER

Eastern Scotland and many central and eastern counties of England will start the day bright with sunny periods. Ireland and western parts of Britain will be cloudy at first with a little light rain or drizzle over the hills. That cloudier weather will move eastwards during the day but most places will stay dry. Temperatures will be cooler than of late in the cloudier areas. Outlook: dry and a little warmer.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	19	66	s	Majorca	19	66	s
Akrotiri	22	72	s	Malaga	21	70	s
Alex'dria	22	72	f	Malta	23	73	s
Algiers	23	73	s	Melb'rne	16	61	c
Amst'dm	13	55	f	Miami*	27	81	r
Athens	23	73	f	Milan	25	77	s
Bahrain	28	82	s	Montreal*	23	73	s
Barbads*	31	88	f	Moscow	12	54	c
Barcelna	20	68	s	Munich	15	59	s
Belgrade	15	59	c	Nairobi	21	70	f
Berlin	13	55	c	Naples	21	70	s
Bermuda*	24	75	f	N Delhi	37	99	s
Biarritz	20	68	s	N York*	30	86	s
Borde'x	24	75	f	Nice	18	64	c
Brussels	14	57	f	Oslo	13	55	f
Budapst	15	59	s	Paris	17	63	f
B Aires*	18	64	s	Peking	17	63	c
Cairo	25	77	c	Perth (aus)	16	61	c
Cape Tn	18	64	c	Prague	11	52	f
C'blanca	28	82	s	Reykjavik	8	46	f
Chicago*	27	81	c	Rhodes	23	73	s
Ch'church	12	54	s	Rio de J	29	84	s
Cologne	12	54	c	Rio de J	31	88	s
C'phagn	11	52	s	Riyadh	31	88	
Corfu	21	70	s	Rome	20	68	s
Dublin	19	66	c	Salzburg	15	59	f
Dubrovnik	22	72	s	S F'risco*	16	61	s
Faro	25	77	s	Santiago*	17	63	f
Florence	22	72	f	S Paulo*	27	81	s
Frankfurt	13	55	c	Seoul	31	88	s
Funchal	27	81	s	St'kholm	8	46	c
Geneva	21	70	f	Strasb'rg	16	61	s
Gibraltar	21	70	s	Sydney	20	68	s
Helsinki	8	46	r	Tangier	22	72	f
Hong K	30	86	f	Tel Aviv	23	73	s
Innsbrck	17	63	c	Tenerife	21	70	s
Istanbul	19	66	s	Tokyo	27	81	s
Jeddah	33	91	s	Toronto*	28	82	f
Jo'burg*	22	72	s	Tunis	23	73	
Karachi	32	90	s	Valencia	28	82	s
L Palmas	24	75	s	Vanc'ver*	12	54	c
Le Tquet	15	59	f	Venice	21	70	c
Lisbon	26	79	s	Vienna	14	57	f
Locarno	29	84	c	Warsaw	11	52	c
L Angels*	16	61	c	Wash'ton*	29	84	s
Luxembg	13	55	s	Wel'nton	11	52	r
Luxor	33	91	s	Zurich	18	64	c
Madrid	27	81	s				

* denotes figures are latest available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.38	2.23
Austria Sch	21.90	20.50
Belgium Fr	63.90	59.90
Canada $	2.09	1.94
Denmark Kr	11.87	11.17
Finland Mkk	7.41	6.96
France Fr	10.49	9.84
Germany Dm	3.10	2.90
Greece Dr	335.00	315.00
Hong Kong $	14.00	13.00
Ireland Pt	1.158	1.088
Italy Lira	2310.00	2160.00
Japan Yen	253.50	235.50
Netherlands Gld	3.49	3.27
Norway Kr	12.07	11.37
Portugal Esc	270.25	252.25
South Africa Rd	5.55	4.95
Spain Pts	191.50	178.50
Sweden Kr	11.15	10.45
Switzerland Fr	2.625	2.455
Turkey Lira	7500.00	6700.00
USA $	1.81	1.69
Yugoslavia Dnr	51.00	32.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 15C (59F); min 6pm to 6am, 9C (48F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.02 in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 2.3 hr.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	11.3	-	14	57	sunny
Anglesey	6.5	-	17	63	bright
Belfast	2.4	-	19	66	cloudy
Birmingham	12.8	-	19	66	sunny
Blackpool	6.7	-	15	59	bright
Bognor Regis	10.8	-	22	72	sunny
Bournemouth	12.9	-	23	73	sunny
Bristol	10.3	-	21	70	sunny
Cardiff	6.7	-	18	64	sunny
Colwyn Bay	6.8	-	18	64	sunny
Douglas	5.7	-	17	63	sunny
Eastbourne	8.1	-	20	68	bright
Edinburgh	9.5	-	17	63	sunny
Eskdalemuir	6.5	-	15	59	sunny
Falmouth	11.4	-	21	70	sunny
Folkestone	11.6	-	21	70	sunny
Glasgow	7.3	-	17	63	bright
Guernsey	13.3	-	17	63	sunny
Hastings	8.1	-	20	68	sunny
Hunstanton	12.0	-	20	68	sunny
Jersey	11.4	-	21	70	sunny
Kinloss	10.3	-	14	57	sunny
Leeds	7.3	-	20	68	bright
London	10.7	-	22	72	sunny
Lowestoft	10.4	-	15	59	sunny
Manchester	9.4	-	17	63	sunny
Minehead	10.4	-	21	70	sunny
Morecambe	6.1	-	16	61	sunny
Nottingham	10.4	-	19	66	sunny
Penzance	12.6	-	22	72	sunny
Plymouth	13.5		x	x	xsunny
Poole	10.7	-	21	70	sunny
Prestwick	3.1	-	13	55	cloudy
Sandown	8.9	-	22	72	sunny
Scarborough	9.5	-	13	55	sunny
Shanklin	11.1	-	21	70	sunny
Southend	11.3	-	21	70	sunny
Southsea	12.2	-	22	72	sunny
St. Ives	0.1	-	13	55	fog
Swanage	12.2	-	22	72	sunny
Torquay	12.8	-	21	70	sunny
Weymouth	13.4	-	23	73	sunny
Worthing	10.8	-	22	72	sunny

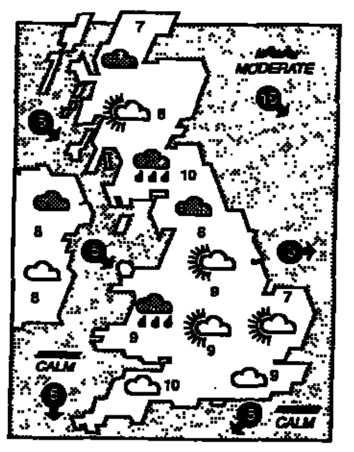
These are Wednesday's figures

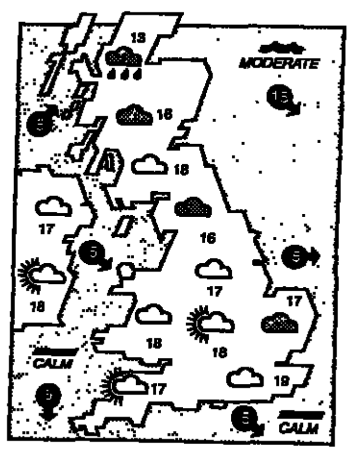
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Gloucs, Avon, Soms	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.





YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	16	61	c	Guernsey	17	63	s
B'rmgham	5	41	c	Inverness	14	57	s
Blackpool	14	57	c	Jersey	19	66	s
Bristol	19	66	c	London	17	63	c
Cardiff	20	68	c	M'nchster	16	61	c
Edinburgh	15	59	f	Newcastle	13	55	s
Glasgow	15	59	r	R'nldsway	14	57	c

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 8.56 pm to 4.56 am
Bristol 9.06 pm to 5.06 am
Edinburgh 9.34 pm to 4.45 am
Manchester 9.16 pm to 4.55 am
Penzance 9.13 pm to 5.24 am

Sun rises: 4.58 am
Sun sets: 8.58 pm
Moon sets 2.43 am
Moon rises 5.04 pm
Full moon May 28

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Bournemouth, Dorset, 23C (73F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 9C (48F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Shetland, 0.06 in; highest sunshine: Exmouth, Devon, 13.7 hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 17C (63F); min 6pm to 6am, 11C (52F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 0.3 hr.

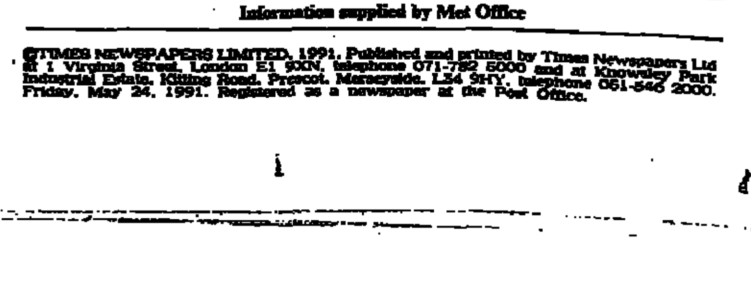
HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	11.40	6.5		
Aberdeen	11.16	3.7	11.55	3.5
Avonmouth	4.38	11.3	5.14	11.3
Belfast	8.45	3.2	9.36	3.0
Cardiff	4.23	10.5	4.59	10.5
Devonport	3.05	4.8	3.46	4.7
Dover	9.01	5.7	9.18	5.9
Falmouth	2.35	4.6	3.16	4.5
Glasgow	10.05	4.3	11.14	4.2
Harwich	9.34	3.5	9.51	3.5
Holyhead	8.13	4.9	8.48	4.8
Hull	4.10	6.3	4.17	6.6

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	8.58	8.2	9.32	8.2
Lowestoft	7.37	2.1	7.18	2.2
Margate	9.58	4.2	10.04	4.3
Milford Haven	3.51	5.9	4.24	5.8
Newquay	2.49	6.0	3.21	5.9
Oban	3.56	3.3	4.20	3.2
Penzance	2.17	4.8	2.54	4.7
Portland	4.00	1.6	4.52	1.6
Portsmouth	9.23	4.1	9.54	4.4
Shoreham	9.06	5.1	9.30	5.6
Southampton	8.55	4.0	9.24	4.2

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS

Business Editor
John Bell

FRIDAY MAY 24 1991

Habitat group loses £7.1m

STOREHOUSE, the Habitat, Mothercare and BhS retailing group, made a bottom-line attributable loss of £7.1 million in the year to March 1991.

The loss at Habitat deepened from £6.9 million to £11.9 million on sales of £206 million (£237 million). BhS profits fell from £27.4 million to £21.6 million on sales slightly up at £617 million.

Overall pre-tax profits dropped 52 per cent to £6.2 million.

Earnings per share fell from 2.1p to 1p but the final dividend has been maintained at 2.5p, making an unchanged 5p.

Tempus, page 23

Whitbread rises

Whitbread has provided a further £42 million against restructuring costs incurred because of the monopolies commission enquiry into the brewing industry. The company set aside an initial £45 million in the previous year. Annual pre-tax profits rose from £265.7 million to £291.5 million and earnings per share from 42.51p to 46.72p. A final dividend of 12p (11p) makes 16.3p (14.8p).

Tempus, page 23

Thames falls

Thames Television warned shareholders that results for the first half of this year will be "substantially worse" than a year ago. Pre-tax profits in the year ended December were £10.1 million against £26.4 million for the previous nine months. The total dividend is 16p (12p for nine months).

Tempus, page 23

Geevor price hit

Geevor shares tumbled from 9½p to 3¼p yesterday as the company announced that it was having difficulty with planned asset sales, has failed to gain any support from alternative bankers, and that staff numbers have been cut from 185 a year ago to 30.

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7370 (+0.0110)
German mark
2.9739 (+0.0026)
Exchange index
92.0 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1945.4 (+12.0)
FT-SE 100
2482.8 (+16.9)
New York Dow Jones
2900.49 (–9.84)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
25643.65 (+244.99)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
J Halstead	287½p (+11p)
Plysu	152p (+9p)
WH Smith 'A'	394p (+12p)
Sothebys	737½p (+13p)
Smithkline Beecham	783½p (+12p)
Tace	158½p (+9p)
VSEL	437½p (+15p)
Wellcome	607½p (+19p)
Carlton Comm	448p (+12p)
Macarthy	224p (+32p)
Whitbread 'A'	486p (+13p)
Medeva	149p (+10p)
Reuters	850p (+27p)
Bass	971p (+17p)
Grand Met	776½p (+13p)
Young 'A'	440p (+15p)
FALLS:	
Steel Burrill	271p (–14p)
Yorkshire TV	291½p (–10p)
Sovereign	110p (–16p)
News Corp	350p (–14p)

Closing Prices...Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 12%
3-month Interbank 11⅝-11 9/16%
3-month eligible bills: 11 7/16-10⅞%
US: Prime Rate 8½%
Federal Funds 5⅝%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.40-5.39%*
30-year bonds 98 7/32-98 8/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7370	£: $1.7345*
£: DM2.9739	$: DM1.7145*
£: SwFr2.5239	$: SwFr1.4550*
£: FFr10.1050	$: FFr5.8210*
£: Yen239.01	$: Yen137.70*
£: Index:92.0	$: Index:66.0
ECU £0.692825	SDR £0.775923
£: ECU1.443365	£: SDR1.288787

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $355.00 pm-$354.90
close $354.90-355.40 (£204.80-205.30)
New York:
Comex $355.75-356.25*

NORTH SEA

Brent (Jun) ...... $18.90 bbl ($18.65)
* Denotes latest trading price

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 133.1 April (1987=100)

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Yorkshire raises dividend 14.8%

Water groups urged to avoid high payouts

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

IAN Byatt, the director general of water services, has issued a dramatic warning to the privatised water groups not to pay excessive dividend increases just because temporary factors had made profits higher than expected when price limits were set.

The warning came on the day that Yorkshire Water, the first of the ten water and sewerage companies to announce its profits for the year to end March, declared a 14.8 per cent rise in dividend. This is about 5 points above the rate of inflation declared last November, the level used to fix this year's prices.

In his 55th letter to managing directors of water utilities, Mr Byatt writes: "In a situation where bills are rising rapidly, customers will not expect companies to make unnecessarily high profits and, in particular, to pay out excessive dividend rises." Companies should plough back extra profits into their investment spending or raise prices by less than the limit.

Under the five-year price control regime, each of the companies is allowed to raise prices by inflation plus a varying factor, called K, calculated to pay for the £30 billion investment programme and allow dividends to rise at an average of just below 5 per cent a year in real terms.

Apart from Yorkshire, the companies are still in the process of fixing their final dividends, but leading City analysts expect the average rise to be about 16.7 per cent, with Wessex, Thames and Severn Trent all rising by more than 18 per cent.

Mr Byatt writes: "It is up to management to decide on dividends, but if companies were to use the present position to pay out dividends above those anticipated when the K factors were set they would need to be ready to answer pointed questions from customers and from the regulator."

Sir Gordon Jones, chairman of Yorkshire Water, said it had deliberately raised its prices in March 0.6 per cent less than permitted to give customers some of the benefit from cost savings. Some projects were brought forward so capital spending reached the planned £250 million despite lower than expected costs.

Over a two-year period, Yorkshire has raised prices 1.5 per cent less than permitted. Of the other companies, however, only Southern Water has put up prices less than allowed, because of planning delays on investment.

Yorkshire's pre-tax profits of £114 million were 12.6 per cent up on the adjusted level for 1989-90, and its dividend of 17.7p was covered by earnings of 52.2p per share. Profits were higher than expected a year ago partly because of the benefit of high interest rates on the group's initial "green dowry", but mostly because cost increases had been kept to 8 per cent compared with a 10 per cent rise in turnover.

This was partly due to efficiency savings and partly because inflation in construction costs had averaged about 6 per cent, below the general level of inflation, as a result of competition during the recession. The group made profits on £7 million of unregulated turnover in new businesses, mainly waste management.

Stephen Doe, water analyst at Smith New Court, the securities group, said it was fortunate for the industry that Yorkshire Water was the first to report its results because it took a responsible attitude to the wishes of the regulator and was most highly rated on the stock market for that reason.

Other companies have benefited from the same special factors, which are likely to continue this year due to the steep fall in inflation since prices were set.

Mr Doe said Mr Byatt showed it was acceptable to make higher profits than predicted temporarily or through efficiency gains and diversification. His dividend warning was likely to be heeded in the current year.

Trevor Newton, Yorkshire's deputy chairman, said: "The last thing we can handle is regulatory uncertainty. Our ambition is to be bottom of the director general's hit list."

JOHN MANNING

Ringing up profits: Iain Vallance, chairman, after announcing results yesterday

Bank set to act on house prices

THE Governor of the Bank of England warned the Building Societies Association conference in Glasgow that a resurgence of house price inflation would be firmly countered by the authorities.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, who said earlier this year he was prepared to consider credit controls if house prices overheated, said the Bank would be watching for signs of house price inflation.

"If it rears its head again and threatens a more general resurgence in inflation, then we will be determined to keep it in check," he said. A survey by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors showed 68 per cent of estate agents reporting static house prices between February and April.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said that, with hindsight, the price of credit was too low during a critical period in the Eighties, when deregulation freed the credit supply. House prices rose by an average of 11.5 per cent a year in the Eighties and were an important factor in overall inflation that peaked last autumn.

Noting that German house prices fell for much of the Eighties without adverse impact on prosperity in Germany, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said that Britain would have to behave more like Germany: "It is hard to see how rapidly rising house prices here could possibly be compatible with a general inflation rate in line with the best in Europe."

Building society receipts more than doubled last month to £1.34 billion despite falling interest rates. This, the largest monthly inflow since July 1989, was helped by the return of funds after members' unsuccessful applications for shares in the newly privatised electricity generating companies. Gross mortgage advances fell £250 million to £3.3 billion and net new commitments rose by £33 million to £3.53 billion.

Mark Boleat, the director general of the Building Societies Association, said: "The gross advances and net new commitments figures for April suggest that new lending remained broadly unchanged since March."

Mortgage rates fell at the beginning of April and were cut again to a standard building society rate of 12.95 per cent at the beginning of May.

Trade gap falls again

By Anatole Kaletsky, Economics Editor

BRITAIN'S underlying trade performance improved in April for the sixth month in succession, as exports continued to grow while imports stagnated.

Although April's estimated current account deficit widened slightly to £339 million from £336 million, there was a sharp improvement in the underlying trade balance excluding oil and erratic items.

The figures were marginally better than City economists had expected, but sterling and other financial markets were unaffected as investors focused on the possibility of a cut in interest rates today.

The Bank of England lent overnight money to the discount houses, instead of engaging in longer-term operations and this was interpreted by some analysts as a signal that interest rates might be changed this morning, when the lending expired. Discount houses were said to be heavy buyers of short sterling contracts on the London International Financial Futures Exchange, fuelling speculation they had picked up a signal on interest rates from the Bank.

The £339 million current account deficit puts the government well on target towards achieving its Budget forecast of a £6 billion deficit for 1991 as a whole. The deficit in the first four months of the year totals £1.7 billion, equivalent to an annual rate of £5 billion.

The current account deficits since the start of the year have included estimated surpluses of £500 million monthly from Britain's trade in invisible services such as finance, tourism and government transfers. The visible trade deficit last month was £839 million, against £836 million in March.

Excluding oil and erratic items, the deficit in April was £845 million, against £1.08 billion in March. Britain's oil surplus shrank to £40 million from £184 million as a result of North Sea maintenance, while erratics swung to a deficit of £34 million from a £63 million surplus in March.

☐ American durable goods orders rose 2.9 per cent in April after three consecutive months of falls. The rise was bigger than expected, but much of the gain was due to defence orders.

Comment, page 23

Cuts help BT top £3bn

By Our Financial Editor

BRITISH Telecom is beginning to feel the effects of the recession, but profits are still rising due to cost cutting.

Ignoring the £390 million exceptional restructuring charge a year ago, pre-tax profits increased 14.2 per cent to £3.08 billion in the year to end March on turnover up 6.8 per cent to £13.2 billion.

A final dividend of 8.05p increases the total dividend for the year 12.7 per cent to 13.3p from earnings of 34p per share, up 16.4 per cent ignoring the restructuring charge.

BT cut staff numbers by 18,800, or 8 per cent, including 6,000 managers, in the year as part of its restructuring. Iain Vallance, the chairman, said the company was likely to shed at least 10,000 more jobs this year as part of the drive to cut costs under the new more stringent price limits imposed on the group.

In the final quarter, turnover rose only 3.8 per cent, restricting the rise in pre-tax profits to 10.5 per cent. On the rolling 12-month average used by BT, the volume of inland calls was up 4 per cent at March 31 and overseas calls rose 6 per cent, compared with rises of 10 and 13 per cent a year earlier.

Mr Vallance said volume growth was now even lower, although it was falling at a slower rate than that recorded in the previous quarter.

Costs increased about 5.7 per cent, but staff costs rose only 4.3 per cent. A net cash inflow of £611 million, compared with an outflow of £1 billion in the previous 12 months, helped cut interest charges 14 per cent to £417 million and reduced borrowings from 48 per cent to 34 per cent of shareholders' funds.

Capital spending fell from £3.1 billion to £2.8 billion thanks to lower spending on computers and property. Mr Vallance said a further £3 billion was likely to be spent this year.

The group said customer service was better than a year ago. In July, BT will cut an average 10 per cent from the cost of international calls.

Comment, page 23

Six North Sea winners

By Martin Barrow

Wakeham: licences

THE energy department has offered licences to all six applicants in the first ever frontier offshore licensing round, which is intended to open the way for the development of unexplored areas of the North Sea.

Operators of the six consortia are Esso Exploration and Production, Amoco UK, Mobil North Sea, Conoco UK, Total Oil Marine and Texaco Britain. A further five tranches of acreage failed to attract any interest. John Wakeham, the energy secretary, also announced the names of successful applicants for licences under the twelfth licensing round for 74 blocks in the North Sea and, once again, independent oil companies, including Lasmo and Ultramar, appear to have fared well.

National Power, the privatised electricity generator, has a 25 per cent interest in a consortium with Total.

GRE puts farmland up for sale

City slickers retiring their wellies

By Matthew Bond

IT SEEMS like only yesterday that every self-respecting City fund manager was swapping his pinstripes and furled umbrella for a tweed suit and wellies and going farming. In the Sixties, Seventies and early Eighties, City institutions ploughed millions of pounds into buying thousands of acres of British farmland.

What a difference a decade makes.

It was announced yesterday that one of the Square Mile's biggest farmers will join the growing list of City institutions that are turning their backs on the difficulties of modern agriculture to return to the familiar territory of stocks and shares.

In one of the biggest transactions the farmland market has ever seen, Guardian Royal Exchange has placed its farming company, British Field Products, on the market. Complete with 22,500 acres of some of the best land in East Anglia, the company is likely to cost something in the region of £38 million.

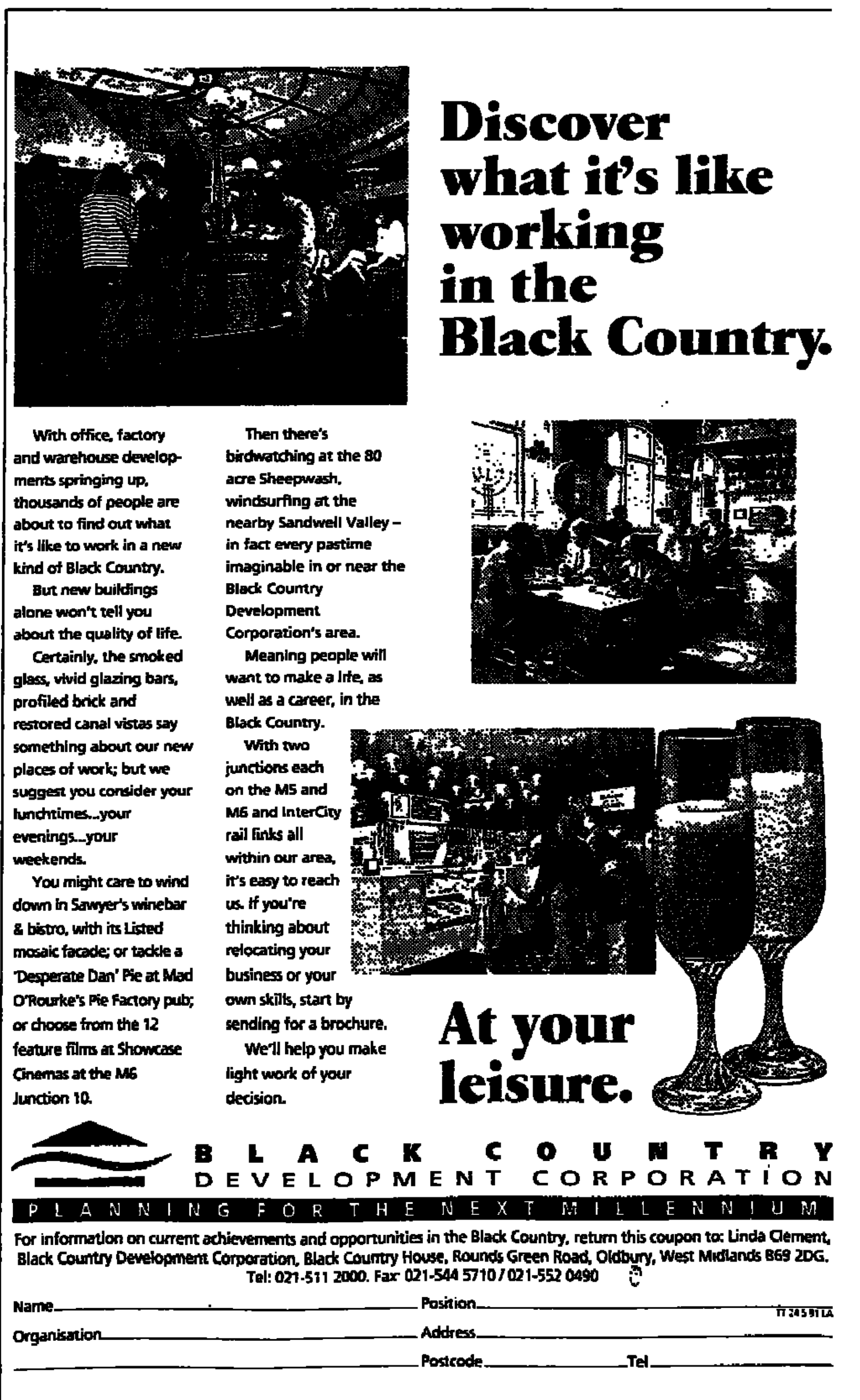
Savills and Robinson & Hall, the agent instructed to sell the company, believes the sale is the largest disposal of vacant agricultural land for decades. The only transaction halfway comparable was last year's sale of an 11,500 estate for the British Coal pension fund.

As one of the first institutions to invest in agriculture, GRE bought BFP in 1965. As a result of its decision to sell, the end is in sight for a 26-year stewardship of large tracts of Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire.

But at GRE's City headquarters, this was not an excuse for the sort of sentimentality normally associated with matters rural, especially when those matters rural are being sold. "It's really just part of a strategic reappraisal," said a GRE spokesman coldly. "Farming does not fit into our core business as we see it." At British Field Products, which employs 170 people and has a turnover of over £10 million a year, there was an air of optimism despite GRE's decision.

David Bridge, managing director, believes potential buyers should not be deterred by the air of gloom that surrounds British farming. He pointed to a near-doubling in net profits over the last three years to £2.6 million last time round. But could a buyer be so confident about the future, given the difficulties farm ministers are having in agreeing farm prices?

"We set out some years ago on a policy of not growing totally EEC-supported crops. Today we have got 50 per cent of the area we farm in non-supported crops," said Mr Bridge. But for now, quite who will be reaping the profits from next year's crops of peas, potatoes, carrots and cauliflowers is the £38 million question.



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Poulenc ready for $1bn of disposals

From Ross Tieman
IN PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

RHONE-POULENC, the French state-controlled chemicals group, is planning $1.5 billion of disposals within the next 12 months.

Sales and joint ventures will complete rationalisation of £4 billion of acquisitions during the past four years, which have made Rhône-Poulenc the world's seventh largest chemicals company.

They are intended by Jean-Rene Fourtou, the chairman, as the prelude to partial privatisation in 1993 or 1994. M Fourtou hopes a reduction in the state shareholding, nominally 56 per cent but larger because of indirect shareholdings, could be accompanied by an equity issue to raise funds for further acquisitions.

Speaking at Princeton during a visit to part of Rhône-Poulenc's American operations, M Fourtou rejected suggestions that he might use new French legislation permitting state companies to issue shares to joint venture partners. He said Rhône-Poulenc was grossly undervalued because of his government's majority shareholding.

The French government is unlikely to decide upon the company's future until the outcome of the French elections in 1993 is known.

In the past, Rhône-Poulenc has had to resort to creative financing schemes, such as an issue of subordinated perpetual floating rate notes to raise funds. None the less gearing remains at 90 per cent. M Fourtou said: "The fact is that the stock is permanently undervalued so it is not easy to raise money. I don't want to issue any equity during the coming three years."

As a result of its acquisitions last year, Rhône Poulenc derived 43 per cent of its £7.96 billion sales from life sciences (pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals), 36 per cent from speciality chemicals and 21 per cent from bulk chemicals. Its dependence on the French market has been reduced from 30 per cent to 23 per cent. Sales in North America have soared to account for 21 per cent of the group total. Pre-tax profits at £380 million have yet to show the benefits of the group's expansion.

Gatward left TVS with £375,000 handshake

By Melinda Wittstock, media correspondent

JAMES Gatward, the man who must surely be blamed if TVS Entertainment loses its franchise in the Channel 3 licence auction, left the company with a £375,000 payoff.

Mr Gatward, who was one of ITV's highest paid executives last year with a salary of £250,000 plus bonuses, had hoped, however, to get more than £1 million. Responsible for TVS's disastrous £190.5 million acquisition of MTM, the loss-making American studio, Mr Gatward resigned as group chief executive last December after pressure from Générale des Eaux and Canal Plus, TVS's French shareholders.

Gatward: sought £1 million

In January, he left the company altogether, resigning as executive chairman of TVS Television. City analysts said that while the £375,000 payout seems high, given his actions took the company into the red, it represents a big saving for shareholders.

TVS, which announced a £30 million injection of funds last week from Time Warner and Associated Newspapers should it win its licence, is facing three rival bids for its South and Southeast ITV franchise.

Its challengers include Carlton Communications, the MAI-backed Meridian Broadcasting and CPV-TV, the David Frost and Virgin consortium.

☐ Gerry Buckland, TVS director of corporate affairs, has left the company after reports of a disagreement with senior staff. Neither Mr Buckland nor Tony Brook, TVS managing director, were available for comment.

Shaftesbury suffers £5.9m interim loss

By Martin Barrow

SHAFTESBURY, the developer specialising in properties in London's West End, has provided a further £3.9 million against falling property values, leaving an interim pretax loss of £5.9 million.

Losses per share were 23.9p. In the first six months of the past financial year it reported taxable profits of £194,000 and earnings of 0.46p a share. On the stock market the shares fell 7p to 120p.

Shaftesbury has provided £2.04 million against the cost of development properties and a further £1.84 million in respect of the company's share of properties held by associates. Total provisions last year were £4.28 million.

Rental income rose to £2.9 million (£2.64 million), yielding net revenue from properties of £2.34 million (£2.21 million). However, losses attributable to associate companies increased to £2.61 million (£303,000) while net interest charges rose to £3.03 million (£1.22 million).

In the 12 months to the end of September 1990, Shaftesbury incurred losses of £5.5 million after provisions.

JOHN MANNING

Hats off to a hot summer: John Young, chairman, on one of the brewer's drays

Young profits froth over £5m

By Philip Pangalos

AN INCREASE in beer volumes, boosted by a successful push into the guest beer market and a hot summer, helped Young & Co's Brewery, the Wandsworth brewer, report improved full-year profits.

Pre-tax profits rose to £5.03 million (£4.62 million) in the year to end March, on turnover up 12.6 per cent to £58.5 million.

John Young, the chairman, said: "Traditional beers are making a comeback. People at long last are going back to drinking more ales."

A strong performance from the free trade and managed houses helped boost beer volumes 5 per cent in a relatively depressed market, bettering the national average. Mr Young said the group had benefited from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission measures last year aiding independent beer producers and increasing the sale of public houses.

He added: "We had a very good summer and the hot weather increases trade, although the weather does not seem to affect sales as much as it did in the past."

Trading profits rose 27.3 per cent to £6.87 million. Young's total number of public houses increased by six to 155.

Interest payments rose to £1.83 million (£1.07 million), reflecting the acquisition of more public houses and investment in the development of the Bridge Hotel, a 68-bedroom hotel at Greenford, west London, which has an occupancy rate of about 69 per cent. The group plans to buy a further eight hotels.

Mr Young added: "Although the future outlook is somewhat unsettled, we are cautiously optimistic for the coming year and will take full advantage of the further opportunities that may arise as a result of the MMC report."

Earnings rose to 28.38p (24.11p) a share. Shareholders will benefit from an increased final dividend of 7p (6p), making an improved total of 13p (11.5p) for the year. The A shares gained 15p to 440p.

Westbury calls on shareholders

By Our City Staff

WESTBURY is the latest builder to call on shareholders for cash to repair a balance sheet damaged by the severe downturn in demand for housing.

The company, which operates in Wales and the west of England, is raising £20.7 million through a rights issue after returning losses of £8.1 million before tax for the year to end February. Losses per share were 14.6p. The provisions are in line with a warning it gave in March. The total dividend for the year is maintained at 9p a share, with a final payment of 5.75p. Westbury has also promised a total dividend of at least 9p for the following year, although no profit is forecast.

The rights issue, underwritten by Kleinwort Benson, is of one new share for every three held at 130p. Existing Westbury shares fell from 166p to 162p. Borrowings will initally fall from £55.8 million to £35 million, reducing gearing below 30 per cent.

Westbury has continued to build homes, maintaining turnover at £171.1 million last year, compared with £174.36 million. Operating profits fell to £14.41 million (£36.09 million).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Dobson maintains payout as profits fall

DOBSON Park Industries, the industrial electronics to mining equipment group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £10.2 million to £6.53 million in the six months to end March, as turnover declined from £129.7 million to £114.2 million. Earnings per share slipped from 5.87p to 3.52p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 1.9p. Interest payments were slashed to £378,000 from £1.21 million last time.

Alan Kaye, chief executive, said the reduction in profits reflects the difficult trading environment affecting most parts of the group's activities. However, he emphasised that the balance sheet remains sound and the cost reduction exercises being carried out should ensure that the group will quickly benefit when conditions improve.

News Corp $650m sale

THE News Corporation has sold nine American magazines to K-III Magazine Corporation for $650 million. The transaction is expected to be completed by mid-June. Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of News Corp, said: "We are sorry to see these properties leave the fold, but wish our friends at K-III great success with their new publications."

Manders expands

MANDERS (Holdings), the ink and paint manufacturer, has paid £600,000 for the business of Millden Eagle, which makes decals and transfer markings for vehicle fleet livery, heavy engineering equipment and other markets. Millden Eagle had a turnover of £3.5 million in 1989 and tangible assets at the end of the year were £1.2 million.

Foster's terms agreed

FOSTER'S Brewing Group and its main banks have agreed on an Aus$1.3 billion (£573.2 million) refinancing package involving the conversion of short-term debt to a maturity of more than 18 months. It will aid Foster's, formerly Elders IXL, as it restructures into a single-purpose brewer.

Australian Ratings, the credit-watch agency, said in January that the planned refinancing would contain new covenants governing Foster's relationship with Harlin Holdings, its main shareholder, which would preclude the payment of capital returns and abnormal dividends.

Takare to raise £15m

TAKARE, a nursing homes group, is raising £15.75 million by a further issue of debenture stock. The cash will be used to finance expansion. BZW will place a further tranche of Takare's 11.8 per cent first mortgage debenture, 2014, which, together with the £9.25 million already in issue, will be listed on the Stock Exchange through an introduction.

Medeva calls for £56m

MEDEVA, the medical group, is making a placing and one-for-three open offer, at 126p each of 45 million new shares, underwritten by Lazard Brothers, to raise £56.7 million to buy MD Pharmaceutical of Santa Ana, California. The price is $72.2 million cash, options on 3 million ordinary shares and $2.2 million for bonuses for senior MDP staff.

Brent Walker reprieve

BRENT Walker Group, the debt-plagued leisure conglomerate, has been granted a deferment of most of the £6.5 million first payment on its £102 million convertible capital bonds, due yesterday.

Bondholders speaking for £95 million of the issue have agreed that payment will be made on June 6. Interest in respect of the rest of the issue is to be paid. Brent Walker said the deferment would allow it to determine the precise terms of the restructuring proposals to be put to bondholders.

BT

Preliminary Results 1990/91

Results for fourth quarter and year to 31 March, 1991

	Fourth Quarter £m	Fourth Quarter Increase	Full Year £m	Full Year Increase
Turnover	3,401	3.8%	13,154	6.8%
Operating profit	899	5.8%	3,531	10.0%
Profit before tax	756	10.5%*	3,075	14.2%*
Profit after tax	515	12.4%*	2,080	16.3%*
Earnings per ordinary share	8.6p	15.6%*	34.0p	16.4%*
Dividends per ordinary share (net)			13.3p	12.7%

* Increase based on results for 1990 before exceptional charge of £390m.

The accounts from which these non statutory results are extracted have not yet been filed with the Registrar of Companies or reported on by the auditors.

A final dividend of 8.05 pence net per share, if approved at the Annual General Meeting on 18 July, will make a total dividend of 13.3 pence net for the year. It will be paid on 11 September to those shareholders on the register on 8 August, 1991.

Highlights

- Turnover up by 6.8%.
- Earnings per share up by 16.4%.
- Dividends per share up by 12.7%.
- Quality of service continues to improve.

"BT has achieved sound results in difficult economic conditions. Growth in demand for services has declined progressively throughout the year in line with the UK economy but BT has contained its costs and operating margins have improved. In addition the company has undertaken a fundamental restructuring to prepare itself for the challenges of the 1990s."

Iain Vallance
Chairman

If you have any queries as a shareholder, please call 0345 010505. For daily information on the BT share price and matters of interest to shareholders generally, please call 0345 010707. You may telephone these numbers from anywhere in the UK for the price of a local call.

British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ.

Charterhouse to buy BCMB

By Angela Mackay

CHARTERHOUSE, the merchant banking arm of Royal Bank of Scotland, has agreed in principle to buy British and Commonwealth Merchant Bank from its administrators, leaving only one big asset of British & Commonwealth, the parent group, to be sold: Exco, the money broker.

Neither party would confirm the price, which is yet to be determined by a formula linked to the quality of the loan book, but the final amount will be between £18 million and £25 million.

Exchange of contracts is expected by the end of June and completion soon after. BCMB's depositors are owed about £150 million and will be repaid immediately after completion. Total liabilities are about £300 million.

Ian Beith, Charterhouse's managing director and head of debt services, said: "Full repayment of depositors and other creditors is a condition of lifting the administration order.

"The acquisition allows us to diversify and increase our earnings base . . . building on existing expertise in property and structured finance while enabling us to acquire loan assets in such areas as media and public sector finance."

Charterhouse is likely to phase out the BCMB name. Once the sale is completed there will be a lengthy review of the business that will involve the regulators.

Ernst & Young, the administrators, thought they had sold BCMB to Cukurova Group, the Turkish conglomerate, but the deal collapsed in March.

The sale to Charterhouse forestalls an alternative plan to try and free some funds for BCMB creditors.

BCMB went into administration last June, two months after its parent, and its assets have been frozen since.

Separately, Gerrard & National Holdings, the discount house group, said it is to buy LM (Moneybrokers) from Exco for £12.5 million plus a possible further £3 million based on performance.

Gerrard & National also reported net profits up 42 per cent to £12.1 million in the year to April 4. The final dividend of 14.5p per share makes 20.5p for the year, up from 19p.

Tace faces challenge

TACE, the environmental controls concern, has convened an extraordinary meeting for June 19 to consider calls for the removal of the entire board (Martin Barrow writes).

Norwich Union and Framlington, two institutional shareholders, are seeking the removal of David Nicolson, chairman, and his fellow directors to make way for the appointment of Michael Beckett at the head of a new board. The institutions own 21 per cent of Tace but claim to speak for shareholders controlling 40 per cent.

Mr Nicolson, who succeeded Jock Mackenzie six weeks ago, said investors speaking for 29 per cent of Tace already intended to vote against the resolutions. Bob Morton, a City financier with a 4.4 per cent interest in Tace, is joining the board in a non-executive capacity.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
Aberdeen Tst	49 –1
Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	123 –1
Alliance Res	23
Brabant Res (155p)	132
CMW Group (30p)	50
Drayton Blue Chip (100p)	102
EFM Income Tst	88
East German Inv	111
Eidos (100p)	50
Etonbrook	64
Europe Energy	13
Gresham Telecomp	15
Headline Book	123
Highcroft Inv	163
Invergordon (135p)	153
Levercrest (106p)	60
MMEC	¾
MMI (20p)	24
Mirror Gp Newspaper	119 +1
Oryx Gold	194
Proteus Intl (84p)	116
Seton Healthcare (135p)	174
Smaller IT	77
Stand Platform (225p)	143
Trio Inv Tst	40
Utd Uniform	110
Unichem (100p)	163 +2
Wig Tpe App	237 +1
RIGHTS ISSUES	
Argyll N/P	37
Bioplan N/P	1
Cannon Street N/P	4 –1
Cussins Prop N/P	3
Guinness Mahon N/P	1¼
Lovell (YJ) N/P	2 +½
Porth Group N/P	2
Scapa N/P	15
Synapse Computer N/P	8
Tr High Inc N/P	2½

COMPANY BRIEFS

PLYSU (Fin) Pre-tax: £7.52m (£5.51m) EPS: 11.4p (8.6p) Div: 3.15p, mkg 4.5p	Last time's total dividend was 3.5p. Turnover grew to £65.3m (£58.6m). Company expects continued profits growth. Gearing down to 22%.
TRIMOCO (Fin) Pre-tax: £2.5m (£3.81m) EPS: 1.68p (3.78p) Div: 0.8p, mkg 1.4p	Last time's total dividend was 1.4p. Fully diluted earnings slipped to 1.39p (2.34p). Company said trading conditions are still difficult.
MORLAND (Int) Pre-tax: £2.67m (£2.38m) EPS: 11.3p (10.0p) Div: 2.17p (1.97p)	Extraordinary debit of £228,000 (nil). Company said the outlook for the rest of the year remains satisfactory.
AJ ARCHER (Int) Pre-tax: £708,000 EPS: 1.9p (1.7p) Div: 3.15p (3.15p)	Last time's profit was £650,000. Turnover climbed to £1.32m (£1.17m). Operating profits rose to £335,000 (£280,000).
WARNER ESTATE (Int) Pre-tax: £3.93m (£3.74m) EPS: 5.41p (4.97p) Div: 3.25p (3p)	Turnover grew to £5.18m (£4.81m). Company said lettings have been slow, partly due to depressed state of the retail industry.
AIRFLOW STREAMLINES Pre-tax: £1.22m (£3.2m) EPS: 8.97p (23.32p) Div: 2p, mkg 4p (6p)	Final results. Turnover slipped to £65.2m (£66.1m). The company is continuing with its cost reduction programme.
RADIO CITY (Int) Pre-tax: Loss £206,000 LPS: 5.12p (EPS: 11.46p) Div: Nil (3.50p)	Pre-tax profit last time was £458,000. Turnover slipped to £1.42m (£1.87m). Exceptional debit of £90,000 (nil).
NEW LONDON (Fin) Pre-tax: $3.68m ($1.09m) EPS: 3 cents (0.3 cents) Div: N/A	Turnover advanced to $44.7m ($31.1m). The company said it is well positioned to pursue an active programme of expansion.
BERRY, BIRCH & NOBLE Pre-tax: £628,000 EPS: 6.2p (4.3p) Div: 1.5p (nil)	Final results. Last time's pre-tax profit was £400,000. Extraordinary debit of £105,500 (£86,250). Turnover grew to £5.26m (£4.92m).
WINDSOR (Int) Pre-tax: Loss £373,000 LPS: 1.13p (EPS: 0.14p) Div: Nil (nil)	Last time's profit was £120,000. Extraordinary debit of £1.28m (nil). Turnover climbed to £4.19m (£3.84m).
ACATOS & HUTCHESON Pre-tax: £2.8m (£3.01m) EPS: 5.1p (5p) Div: 1.75p (1.75p)	Interim results. Extraordinary credit of £300,000 (£832,000 debit). Company said that an improvement in cashflow has reduced gearing.
ALPINE GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: Loss £66,000 EPS: 0.09p (loss: 14.36p) Div: Nil (nil)	Pre-tax loss last time was £2.9m. Retained profit, £18,000 (loss of £2.83m). Turnover fell to £7.39m (£10.35m).

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
May 7	May 24	Aug 8	Aug 19

Call options were taken out on: 23/5/91 Baris Holdings, Budgens, Macarthy, T
Tusker Res.
Puts & Calls: Premier, Sutcliffe.

WHAT'S MOLLY PARKIN DOING WITH THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE?

find out in

CITY OF LONDON MAGA

on sale nou

Sterling on the narrow band

COMMENT

The long awaited half-point cut in interest rates should finally arrive this morning, if punters in the money markets are to be believed.

The sharp rise in short sterling futures on Liffe yesterday just before the close appeared to be due to some well-informed buying by discount house traders, who have a better idea than most about the Bank of England's intentions. The alternative rumour, that sterling might be taken into the narrow bands of the exchange-rate mechanism today, or over the weekend, seemed less plausible, *but only* because Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, specifically ruled out such a move, both in his Budget speech and in his subsequent appearance before the Commons Treasury Committee.

If it were not for these denials, the narrow band gambit would have considerable political and economic attractions at this stage, if only for the short term. Narrow band could underwrite a far more aggressive *policy* of interest rate cuts, which could become essential both politically and economically if the recession shows no sign of abating within the next few months.

At present, sterling is looking increasingly vulnerable at DM2.97, since the interest rate advantage over the mark is nowhere near sufficient to compensate for a risk of a fall to the bottom of the ERM band. Even without a futher cut this morning, one year money in London is paying only 2 per cent *more than the one-year mark rate* of 9⅛ per cent. But if the pound fell to the bottom of its present ERM band just before or after a general election next spring or summer, the foreign holder of sterling would suffer a capital loss of 6.8 per cent.

As the last possible date for a general election approaches, the foreign exchange speculators are going to rediscover this simple calculation. But a move to the *narrow band, centred round the* present mid-point of DM2.95, would instantly lift this cloud over sterling and the government's re-election prospects. What it would do to Britain's exporters and manufacturers would be a question for the next parliament to sort out.

Non-vintage

On the surface, things look black for British Telecom. Growth in call volumes has fallen by two-thirds in a year to about 3 per cent for inland calls. Under the new regime, prices are capped at an average 6¼ per cent below retail price inflation, which is falling fast and is now below the underlying rate of inflation. Investors also face an autumn avalanche of shares as the *government unloads* up to 49 per cent of Britain's biggest company. No wonder the shares now have a sub-average rating of 11.3 times 1990-1 earnings, where they yield 4.6 per cent.

Beneath all this gloom, however, is the underlying strength of a company that has at least some growth in a sagging economy and has a momentum of cost cuts and productivity *growth that should see it through* this year and next.

The restructuring, though provided for in a £390 million charge a year ago, is only just unfolding in terms of annual savings. For instance, some 70 per cent of the jobs cut last year went in the second half.

The current year will still not be a vintage one for profits. International call prices will fall 10 per cent, so revenue in this *crucial growth area is likely to fall* after a rise of only 1.2 per cent last year. There should, however, be positive growth in inland call revenue, which accounts for 40 per cent of group turnover, since the autumn price review only operated for half the financial year. Revenue from exchange line revenues, which is as important as international calls, will also continue to rise strongly, though not as fast as BT would like.

If overall profits rise by 8 or 9 per cent this year, assuming some *help* from newer businesses, *BT* will outpace the industrial average by a wide margin. The shares would then sell at less than 10½ times prospective earnings. There will also be room to keep dividends rising above the rate of inflation, which few will be able to manage comfortably.

Patrick Wellington of County NatWest reasons that the autumn share sale should also be good for BT's shares. British *insitutional* shareholders are underweight in the stock because of the government holding. At some point before or after the sale, they will therefore want to buy in the market. We shall see.

ICI silence

Financial markets are rather like nature in that both abhor a vacuum. Sir Denys Henderson and the rest of the ICI board would be wrong to act rashly simply because the hot breath of Hanson is at their necks. *But* they also have a responsibility to avoid as far as possible a disorderly rumour-driven market in ICI shares.

They are in a useful position to do so as Hanson has scrupulously avoided any statement that could trigger what the Takeover Panel describes as an offer period. ICI therefore has a relatively free hand to elaborate on the restructuring moves that it announced some time ago.

The plans, whatever they are, should make a positive read. For ICI is at the bottom of the chemicals cycle. While 1991 will be a dull year, *a sharp recovery* is in prospect for 1992 even without the benefits to arise from any reshaping of the group.

Out of the spotlight: Asil Nadir, the founder of Polly Peck, is unlikely to turn up at today's creditors' meeting

Dilemma for creditors at Polly Peck's palace party

ABOUT 2,200 of Polly Peck International's creditors along *with a gaggle of spectators* are expected to attend today's meeting at Alexandra Palace to decide the future of the cash-strapped fresh fruit, hotels and electronics group.

Asil Nadir, the company's Svengali, chairman and biggest shareholder, is, however, unlikely to attend due to ill-health. The proceedings will be the duller for his absence.

At previous gatherings, Mr Nadir, who is facing charges of £25 million worth of theft and false accounting, has been ushered in by three burly bodyguards and ushered out into a waiting Daimler parked in a side alley and driven away at high speed with photographers running in his wake.

But even though Mr Nadir is one of his company's creditors, his presence would be an uncomfortable reminder of the past now that Richard Stone, Michael Jordan and Christopher Morris, the administrators, are trying to focus on the future.

They want creditors to vote for a long-term reconstruction of the company, rather than opt for *immediate liquidation* of the company.

An unofficial poll of some of the bigger bank creditors suggested support will be forthcoming particularly after a circular was dispatched this month estimating immediate liquidation would yield a return of only 20p in the pound.

If the vote is for the reconstruction, a formal creditors' committee will be formed from among the biggest creditors — the banks who together are owed more than £1 billion. The committee is usually comprised of five creditors, however, this time the administrators are hoping to boost that number to 15 and include shareholders and bondholders.

Even though shareholder creditors far exceed the rest — 23,000 versus 2,000 — they are only owed £26 million of dividend income compared with £1.3 billion, so it is unlikely they will be able to have more than one representative.

The reconstruction plan envisages five core divisions. Three are mainstream: Del Monte Fresh Fruit; Sansui, the Japanese electronics group, quoted in Tokyo; and Vestel, the Turkish electronics arm quoted in Istanbul.

The value of other two, new divisions covering Polly Peck's non-Vestel businesses in Turkey and northern Cyprus are more difficult to quantify and appear to be a way of hiving off the assets residing in the "too-hard basket".

These divisions would contain all the Near East food, packaging and leisure assets. Access to the books and operations has been hampered by injunctions in northern Cyprus and Turkey and Mr Nadir's lack of mobility after his arrest.

Relations have improved over the past month and negotiations have started once again, but the administrators fear this painstaking process will be wasted if the creditors vote for liquidation because Turkish Cypriot executives, in particular, would immediately close ranks.

One division, tentatively called East Mediterranean food and packaging, and including the Meyna and Sunzest food businesses, and the Unipac packaging company, might eventually be floated on the Istanbul stock exchange where the Polly Peck name is well known and Mr *Nadir has the support of his* compatriots.

Recovering the £230 million invested in the other division, the hotel and leisure subsidiaries, is still a perplexing question which the administrators will need more time to solve if the creditors see fit to grant it.

Today, the administrators want the meeting's theme to be asset enhancement. But with the lack of figures related to the last division, creditors will be justified if they want to know why they should be asked to stick their hands into a lucky dip rather than opt for certainty.

What the three accountants will stress is the value of prime assets like Del Monte which is entering its peak revenue period, and the possibilities of rejuvenating the well-known brands within Sansui.

There is bound to be discontent from smaller creditors who have not been privy to the informal contact the administrators have enjoyed with leading creditors.

These creditors will probably have to be content with expressing dissent because voting clout is proportional to the amount a creditor is owed.

The administrators have worked hard on the reconstruction and doubtless have been earning their unquantified fees. What creditors have to decide is whether they have the nerve to continue to play a game where there could still be no winners.

ANGELA MACKAY

Storehouse is clean but empty

TEMPUS

MICHAEL Julien may be describing Storehouse's balance sheet when he calls it "a clean company", but shareholders' main concern is likely to be that the group is clean of profits. The bottom line loss for the year to end March was £7.1 million.

The last time they saw any profit growth was in 1986-7. Since then, they have been promised jam tomorrow on an annual basis. This year is different, however. The Storehouse management is making no pretence that 1991 will be a good year. Only six weeks into the 12-month period, the management knows that the first half will be worse this year than last.

The big puzzle is how a company with a turnover of £1.21 billion, down 3 per cent, and a cost base up only 2 per cent can see operating profits fall 51 per cent to £19.2 million. One reason is gross margin erosion as old stock has been cleared and prices have been discounted.

The dividend has been held at 5p for the year despite the drop in pre-tax profits from £12.8 million to £6.2 million. Earnings have fallen from 2.1p to 1p a share. Operating profits fell at Habitat, Mothercare and British Home Stores.

There were £14.8 million of exceptional costs due to store closures and 3,400 lost jobs, and £11.2 million of extraordinary costs due to disposals. Mr Julien said the rationalisation programme is now complete.

Net assets are 111p a share, most of the asset backing comes from property, and gearing is less than 1 per cent. The healthy balance sheet and dismal profits performance may make the group ripe for takeover. Kingfisher would be keen to take Mothercare.

However, not even the prospect *of a takeover makes the* shares a sound investment. At 101p, they are on a price/earnings ratio of 29 times assuming profits of £21 million this year.

Changes complete: Storehouse's Michael Julien

Thames TV

NEWS from television companies is all the same these days. Only the names change.

The story line features higher costs, weak advertising revenue and an increased exchequer levy. Added to those woes is the uncertainty over who wins what in the franchise bidding round.

It was Thames Television's turn yesterday. Thames announced pre-tax profits of £10.1 million for the year ended December, compared with £26.4 million for a previous nine-month period, a year's total dividend of 16p, against a nine months' 12p, and a warning that 1991 interim results could be "substantially worse" than the £11.2 million seen in the first half of the previous year.

Staff levels and costs have already been cut — with further reductions over the 18 months likely — and there remain frowns over the American subsidiary that ran up an operating loss of £1.95 million on a £28.9 million turnover.

In February, Thames had forecast pre-tax profits of £11.5 million but, reflecting its 22 per cent stake in ITN, it had to pay up an additional £1.6 million of costs.

Thames also had a £2.1 million interest bill last year, compared with £2.9 million interest income previously.

Uncertain times may see pre-tax profits at only £15 million in 1991 to put the shares at 286p on 14.3 times prospective earnings.

Until the outcome of the franchise round is known, television investors should fasten their safety belts.

Whitbread

WHITBREAD'S undoubted strength as a retailer has been overshadowed by the uncertainty hanging over the brewing sector, nor has the company laid to rest understandable fears about a proposal to merge its brewing interests with Allied-Lyons.

This should not detract from the company's ability to extract some growth from a market which, as Whitbread admits, deteriorated month by month and shows little sign of recovering until the final quar*ter of this year, at the earliest.*

In the 12 months to March 2, pre-tax profits rose from £265.7 million to £291.5 million and earnings from 42.51p a share to 46.72p. That is some going for a business so heavily *dependent on* consumer spending.

Stated operating profits fell from £280.1 million to £265.5 million but last year's figure included a £34.5 million contribution from wines and spirits, *no longer part of the* group. On a like-for-like basis sales grew 14 per cent.

Historically, restaurants and public houses have been the first to be hit in hard times but the first to bounce back when the pressure eases. There is nothing to suggest that it will be different next time round.

County NatWest expects profits of £309 million this year and earnings of 49.1p, placing the 'A' shares, at 481p, on a prospective price earnings ratio of less than ten. The rating is not demanding but brewing uncertainties reduce the appeal.

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Rhythm and greens

A BID for the new "non-pop" independent national radio licence by the Green Broadcasting Company was ruled invalid by the Radio Authority — because GBC forgot to enclose the £10,000 application fee. The bid, under the name of Metronome Radio, also failed to include full details of programme plans. Peter Games, chairman of Green Broadcasting and a former arts correspondent of *The Independent*, said after the close of Wednesday's deadline for acceptances that he "could not understand" why the bid had been refused. Classic FM, First National Radio and UK FM are competing for the channel which will focus on "natural" music that does not rely on amplifiers. Metronome was promising music "free of artificial additives".

Drug hoards

THE world of accountancy grows more exciting by the day. Take Maurice Withall, an insolvency practitioner with Grant Thornton, who has been called in by Customs & Excise to seize and sell drug-related assets. "We deal with yachts, aeroplanes and properties in Spain," says Withall, who adds *that many* drug traffickers find yet more exotic ways to invest their money. Uncut diamonds, samurai swords, gold bars and even military hardware find their way into smugglers' dens.

Fighting form

DAVID Abell, the chairman of Suter, was in fighting form at the industrial conglomerate's annual meeting in London yesterday. Not only is he pressing on with his lawsuit against Channel 4 and Fulcrum productions over a programme in 1987, but also says Suter has no plans to drop a *second action against* Francis Industries, acquired in 1984 after a lengthy takeover battle. Abell has forked out between £100,000 and £250,000 on the first action, and the company has paid £250,000 on the second, which is unlikely to reach the courts until January. The three-year-old trade department report on Suter is due out soon.

Baited hook

LORD Hanson, basking in speculation over his plans for ICI, has decided to dispose of another asset — a lake in *Milton Keynes*. Dovecote lake, a former gravel pit, is being offered for sale by tender by ARC, a Hanson subsidiary. Several leisure companies are said to be casting their eye over the site, which is ex*pected to fetch* "seven figures". Even so, Lord Hanson may be sorry to see the lake go. It is teeming with large predatory pike.

Canary oasis

AT LAST we can take Canary Wharf seriously. The half-occupied development in London's Docklands is finally to have its first pub. In August, Bass will be opening the Henry Addington, named after the prime minister who opened the original wharf in 1802. That will do nicely for staff at American Express, which will be sharing the site with the new watering hole.

JON ASHWORTH

STOCK MARKET

Wellcome shares rise over ICI 'link'

SHARES in Wellcome, the pharmaceuticals group, rose 18p to 608p amid claims that it was about to establish a joint venture with ICI's pharmaceuticals division.

There have been suggestions this week that one way for ICI to fend off an unwanted bid from Hanson would be to establish joint ventures with other companies. Wellcome's shares made a firm start, encouraged by an overnight buy recommendation from Lehman Brothers, the New York securities house, which painted a bright despite the persistent controversy raging over the success of Retrovir, the group's anti-Aids drug.

Lehman Brothers of New York has raised its forecast of Lloyds Bank's pre-tax profits for the current year from £420 million to £600 million (£591 million last year). Lehman believes that Lloyds's bad debts will be in line with the other clearers. Lloyds's shares gained 11p to 342p.

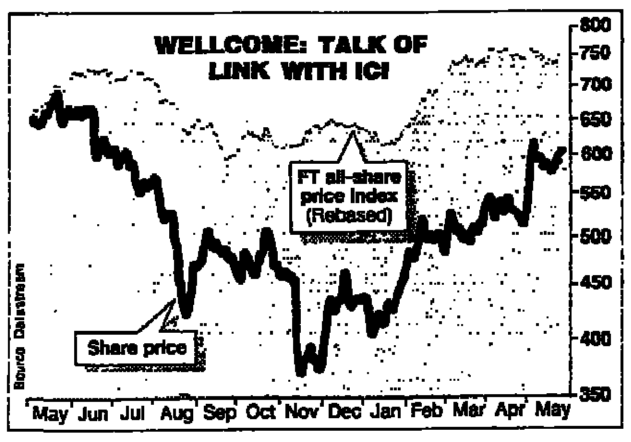
But last night City analysts were starting to scorn suggestions that a link with ICI was a possibility.

Jonathan de Pass, pharmaceutical analyst with Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said: "Its complete rubbish. Wellcome is simply not interested in joining up with ICI".

Interim figures from Wellcome recently made impressive reading, reflecting strong sales growth in Zovirax, its anti-herpes drug. But sales of Retrovir have been losing ground. Despite the absence of any positive moves on the bid front, ICI closed 19p better at £12.46.

Meanwhile, investors were on standby last night poised for a in base rates sometime later today.

The Bank of England increased their optimism with some clearly signalled moves in the money market by breaking with recent tradition and lending overnight money to the discount houses. The seven and 14 day market rates, which have prevented any further cuts in rates, are also due to materialise later today leaving the way open for a reduction.



Yesterday, the City was encouraged by the the April trade figures showing only a slight deterioration of £339 million in the deficit. But *RTZ*, the mining finance house added to the gloom about the economy by warning shareholders that there were no signs of a pick-up in the economy and that profits to date had fallen short of the corresponding period. The shares responded with a fall of 3p to 523p.

Hopes of a cut in interest rates forced market makers to take the iniative and mark prices higher. But there was little support with investors choosing to keep their powder dry. By the close of business only *422 million shares had* been traded, making it one of the quietest weeks in terms of turnover, so far, this year. The FT-SE 100 Index closed near its best levels of the day with a rise of 16.9 at 2,482.8. The narrower FT Index of 30 shares added 12.0 at 1,945.4.

Government securities reflected the absence of a cut in base rates with earlier gains of £⅛ at the longer end being reversed.

Guinness became the subject of a number of bearish stories but the price managed to recover a 10p fall to finish only 1p lighter at 938p. Claims of a rights issue at LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, in which Guinness has a 24 per cent stake, were quickly denied. But the suspension of two companies on the Paris Bourse in which Financier Agache has a controlling interest generated speculative support. Financier Agache also has a stake in LVMH, but it seems as though French investors have been quick to reach the wrong conclusions.

During the next month £300 million of Guinness 5¾ per cent convertible stock falls due for conversion. There are fears among market makers that a large amount of stock could be dumped on the market.

British Telecom greeted news of a rise in pre-tax profits of 14 per cent to £3.07 billion with a rise of 10p to 383p. But there was some disappointment expressed about the dividend. City institutions had been hoping that BT was about to embark on an aggressive dividend policy resulting in bigger payouts.

By contrast, a gloomy trading statement left Geevor 6¼p lower at 3¼p, while the threat of a boardroom shake-up lifted Tace, the environmental monitoring group, 9p to 159p.

There were further selective gains for the electricity companies ahead of the proposed sale of the two Scottish generator companies.

BTR, the industrial group, rose 4p to 385p. The group is on the look-out for a suitable acquisition to help boost its sagging earnings after some disappointing figures. On Wednesday, in New York, there was a sharp rise in the price of Maytag, amid claims that BTR may be ready to pounce.

MICHAEL CLARK

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	2,389	CU	208	Lucas	90	Royal Ins	231
Alld-Lyons	2,206	Courtaulds	2,039	M&S	5,148	Sainsbury	1,495
Anglian	949	Enterprise	1,218	Maxwell Cm	485	Scot & N	1,162
ASDA	1,488	Eurotunnel	105	MEPC	409	Sears	1,329
AB Foods	321	Fisons	1,200	Midland	862	Severn Trnt	1,864
Argyll	1,025	Gen Acc	554	Natl Power	6,580	Shell	2,802
BAA	813	GEC	2,862	Nat West	4,350	Smith & N	541
BET	754	Glaxo	2,064	N W Water	1,312	SK Beech	1,083
BTR	1,751	Grand Met	2,333	P&O	884	Sun Allnce	881
BAT	1,024	GUS 'A'	205	Pearson	280	Tarmac	1,591
Barclays	5,415	GRE	1,412	Pilkington	933	Tate Lyle	1,022
Bass	849	Guinness	2,729	PowerGen	4,634	TSB	2,355
BICC	372	Hamm 'A'	159	Prudential	3,428	Tesco	1,821
Bk Scotlnd	930	Hanson	64,000	Racal	2,382	Thames Wtr	1,080
Blue Circle	370	H & C	1,138	Rk Hovis	1,605	Thorn EMI	38
BOC	1,564	Hawker	189	Rank	73	Trafalgar	152
Boots	444	Hillsdown	672	R&C	259	THF	1,830
Br Aero	1,064	ICI	2,227	Redland	535	Ultramar	638
Br Airways	532	Kingfisher	1,208	Reed	541	Unilever	374
Br Gas	4,124	Lasmo	212	Reuters	1,988	United Bis	704
Br Petrol	3,496	Ladbroke	2,105	RMC Gp	181	Wellcome	1,037
Br Steel	4,834	Land Sec	1,744	RTZ	2,885	Whitbrd	1,957
Br Telecm	9,418	L&G	537	R-Royce	524	Wig Teape	289
C&W	4,098	Lloyds	2,749	Rothmn 'B'	298	Williams	982
Cadbury	915	Lonrho	1,512	Royal Bank	654	Willis Cor	715

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... 2900.49 (−9.84)*
S&P Composite .... 374.81 (−1.38)*

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .. 25643.65 (+244.99)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 3778.79 (−47.83)
FT-SE Euro 100 .... 1132.62 (+0.86)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 94.0 (+0.1)

Sydney: AO .... 1532.0 (−9.3)

Frankfurt: DAX .... 1652.71 (+5.02)

Brussels:
General .... 5781.19 (+4.84)

Paris: CAC .... 483.54 (−3.08)
Zurich: SKA Gen .... 543.7 (+0.6)

London:
FT.—A All-Share ...... 1198.71 (+6.72)
FT.—"500" .... 1327.18 (+7.57)
FT. Gold Mines .... 164.4 (−1.5)
FT. Fixed interest .... 93.48 (−0.01)
FT. Govt Secs .... 84.47 (−0.02)
Bargains 24000
SEAQ Volume 422.2m
USM (Datastream) ...... 135.25 (+0.47)

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The Chairman of the Selection Committee, Dr A. F. Reid, would be pleased to provide further information or discuss the position with potential applicants. He would also be pleased to receive nominations for the appointment from people with standing in the field. He may be contacted in Sydney by telephoning 61 2 887 8212 or on facsimile 61 2 887 8197.

Applications stating full personal and professional details, and names of at least three professional referees, quoting Ref No 9808, should be directed to: **The Director, CSIRO Institute of Minerals, Energy & Construction, PO Box 93, North Ryde NSW 2113, Australia.** Closing date for applications: 5 July 1991.

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Applications are invited for the post of Senior Nautical Surveyor with the Government of Bermuda. Under the direction of the Principal Marine Surveyor, your responsibilities will encompass the maintenance and improvement of standards of *Safety at Sea on Bermuda registered* ships in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Acts and International Conventions; assisting the Registrar of Shipping with registry matters; and providing nautical technical advice assistance within the Department of Marine & Ports Services.

Candidates should possess an Extra Master Certificate of Competency or a Class I Master Mariner Certificate plus a Technical University Degree.

Three years' post-qualification command experience on a foreign-going commercial vessel is required with a thorough knowledge of international safety procedures and requirements plus extensive experience in marine survey work and the certification of ships. The duties of this post entail substantial overseas travel.

The successful candidate will be offered a 3-year contract. At present there is no personal income tax and other non-refundable deductions currently amount to 7% of salary. The cost of living is generally high, but a housing subsidy may be paid if rent exceeds 25% of salary. Resettlement costs will be provided.

For immigration purposes, applications require full details of personal and family circumstances, including number of dependents, academic and professional qualifications, and relevant experience. The names of four references (two professional, two character) and telephone numbers for confidential contact should be included. Candidates *who wish to receive an acknowledgement must enclose a self-addressed* **post card only** with their application. Applications quoting **Ref. No. 1517/30/45/OS**, to be forwarded by express air mail, to arrive no later than **June 24, 1991** to:

The Secretary
Public Service Commission
Global House, 43 Church Street
Hamilton, BERMUDA HM 12
Fax: (809) 295-2858

Bermuda

CENTRO INTERNACIONAL de AGRICULTURA TROPICAL

PLANT PATHOLOGIST
RICE PROGRAM

The Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT) is one of the 13 international agricultural research centres operating under the umbrella of the Consultive Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). CIAT's mission is, in coordination with national agricultural research systems, to generate sustainable food production technologies *that allow for equitable growth of the agricultural sector in tropical developing countries*, and which are compatible with the enhancement of the natural resource base. One of its multidisciplinary research programs develops irrigated and upland rice germ-plasm and technology appropriate for the tropical and temperate rice producing areas of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Rice Program is seeking a plant pathologist to work as part of its multidisciplinary team. Research emphasis will be on developing durable resistance to the rice blast pathogen, elucidating the basis for the variability of this pathogen in Latin America and determining the implications for the epidemiology of the disease. The pathologist will work closely with breeders to identify appropriate sources of resistance, and develop schemes for its efficient use and deployment. This research will include application of advanced biological techniques, especially molecular genetic markers for both the pathogen and host. The pathologist will work with the agronomy and entomology areas as a team to incorporate appropriate disease management practices into an overall integrated pest management approach. Thus, the candidate should have the ability to develop and test pest management and breeding alternatives based on ecological and biological relationships between host and pathogen. The pathologist will also be expected to carry out research on the Hoja blanca virus, grain discoloration and other problems as they might arise. An important part of the responsibilities will be to train young scientists from the region in rice pathology.

The candidate should have a PhD or equivalent in plant pathology, with a minimum of 3-5 years experience in rice diseases. The candidate should be familiar with the application of advanced biological tools towards the solution of pathological and breeding problems. Ideally the candidate should bring a good mix of field and laboratory experience to the position. Ability to work with a multidisciplinary team is essential. Knowledge of English and Spanish or Portuguese is highly desirable. Must be willing to travel.

CIAT is an equal opportunity employer. Remuneration and conditions are competitive with those offered by similar international organisations.

Closing date for applications is 30 July 1991, or until a suitable applicant is found. Please submit curriculum vitae including names and addresses of three referees to Dr Filemón Torres, Deputy Director General, CIAT, Apartado Aéro No 6713, Cali, Colombia.

GEOTEAM

A/S GEOTEAM is a company whose principal activities are in geophysical data acquisition, navigation, seismic data processing and interpretation. Activity is both onshore and offshore with major oil companies as our main clients.

A/S Geoteam head office is located in Oslo with regional offices in Singapore, Great Yarmouth and Aberdeen and an affiliated office in Houston. A total of 170 persons are employed within the organization.

A/S Geoteam today operates 4 vessels for geophysical data acquisition and is now, through its subsidiary company Geoteam Exploration Ltd. A/S, expanding its activities into 3D Seismic Exploration. The first high technology 3D survey vessel, Geo Explorer, is presently being commissioned.

With the very high demands on positioning accuracy in operations and on navigation data processing quality and turn around, Geoteam Exploration has openings for the following positions:

NAVIGATION MANAGER

Applicants must have experience from within the seismic industry and have demonstrated managerial skills. Applicants should have a degree or equivalent in Geodesy and first hand knowledge of computer science.

The successful candidate will head the navigation department and will be responsible for building it up to meet the present and future demands. The Navigation Manager will report directly to the Geoteam Exploration Acquisition Manager.

NAVIGATION PROCESSING SUPERVISOR

Applicants should have experience from within the seismic industry and particularly in processing and quality control of processed navigation data.

Applicants should have a degree or equivalent in Surveying/Geodesy or Mathematics. First hand knowledge of GPS as a navigation system is essential.

The successful candidate will supervise the processing of navigation data, and will be responsible for building the processing section up to meet present and future demands.

The Navigation processing supervisor will report directly to the Navigation Manager.

The Company will offer the successful candidates challenging opportunities, competitive salaries and insurance benefits. Both positions are based at the Geoteam head office in Oslo.

Interested candidates should write and send their curriculum vitae to Geoteam Exploration within the 31st of May 1991.

All applications will be treated in strictest confidence.

For further information contact M. Scott or T. Haugland at Oslo 522400.

GEOTEAM EXPLORATION LTD. A/S
Hoffsjef Løvenskiolds vei 31 c
P.O.Box 52, Øvre Ullern
0311 Oslo 3 - Norway

Dairy Queen®

RPG-PROGRAMMER
for our office in Monaco

We are a group of companies establishing a fast food restaurant chain throughout Europe with offices already established in Italy, Hungary, Spain and Yugoslavia.

As part of our systems development team we require an RPG-programmer for implementing and supporting our European subsidiaries. Good working knowledge of the AS/400 operating system, system software, development tools, as well as basic accounting procedures are required. The position is to be based in Monaco but will require extensive travel throughout Europe.

Please reply by forwarding your CV to:-

Mr M. Mamini - CONFIDENTIAL
CONTINENTAL DAIRY QUEEN LTD
c/o Pilar Management S.A.M.
31 avenue Hector Otto
B.P. 117
MC98002 Monaco Codex
Tel: (010 33) 93 25 09 36
Fax: (010 33) 93 25 46 07

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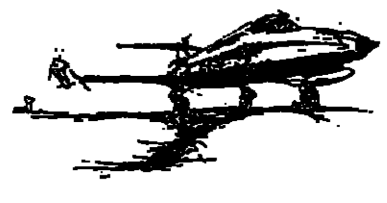
1. Banking and corporate finance;
2. Commercial/corporate law;
3. Litigation (with a particular emphasis on commercial law);
4. Commercial property.

We are keen to talk to you about the New Zealand outlook generally and more particularly about future opportunities we can offer you in relation to your interest area, career aspirations, training and development, income expectations and time frame.

A representative of the firm will be available in London from 19 June to 28 June to meet with you and discuss your future plans. To make an appointment for a confidential discussion please telephone or write to:

RUSSELL McVEAGH McKENZIE BARTLEET & CO
C/- SHEFFIELD CONSULTING GROUP LIMITED
14-18 COPTHALL AVENUE, LONDON EC2R JDJ
TELEPHONE 071 628 4208 FACSIMILE 071 382 9222
ATTENTION: TIM BRISTOL



WE ARE LOOKING FOR STUDENTS WHO WANT *TO BECOME* PROFESSIONAL PILOTS!

Courses for Commercial Pilot Certificate start in December, 1991 in South Carolina and New Mexico, at NAIA a Nationally Accredited School.

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Air UK	Garuda	Swedair
Aviaco	KLM	Swissair

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North American Institute of Aviation Conway-Horry, Country Airport
P.O. Box 688, Conway, South Carolina 29526 USA

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Bushey,
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fax: 081 760 0469

Ref: T 01/03

Expat Network Ltd
Carolyn House, 5th Floor
Dingwall Road
Croydon, CRO 9XF

GENERAL MANAGER /MANAGING DIRECTOR
MOZAMBIQUE

Major international group has above vacancy for paint manufacturing subsidiary, with approximately 60 employees, based in Maputo.

Candidates must speak fluent Portuguese and English and should have previous general management experience.

Applications, with full C.V., in writing to:

Personnel Manager
UB International Limited
Tingewick Road
Buckingham
MK18 1AN

AIGLON COLLEGE

HEADMASTER'S SECRETARY

Aiglon College, the H.M.C. boarding school in the Swiss Alps for 280 boys and girls, wishes to appoint a Secretary to the Headmaster in July/August 1991 or at the latest in January 1992. Candidates may apply either for a temporary appointment with the possibility of extension beyond December 1991 or for a permanent (minimum 2 year) contract from January 1992.

This is a demanding position which carries considerable responsibility and calls for a well educated, level-headed and flexible person with sound administrative skills, including word processing. Good written and spoken French are essential. Non-smoker preferred.

Applicants should be prepared to respond to the challenges of working in an international community, in which care for the individual and spiritual values are stressed.

Applicants are asked to write with C.V., recent photograph, copies of testimonials, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of 2 referees to:

The Headmaster
Aiglon College
1885 Chesières-Villars
Switzerland
Tel: 010 41 25 35 27 21

هكذا من الأصل

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Bid talk helps to lift shares

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began May 20. Dealings end May 31. §Contango day June 3. Settlement day June 10.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	T & N	Industrials S-Z	
2	Foster (John)	Textiles	
3	Welsh Water	Water	
4	Hardy O & G	Oil,Gas	
5	Yorkshire Water	Water	
6	Dixons Grp	Drapery,Stores	
7	Assoc Br Ports	Transport	
8	Cattles	Banks,Discount	
9	Tilbury Group	Building,Roads	
10	Ratners Group	Drapery,Stores	
11	Severn Trent	Water	
12	Geest	Foods	
13	Nat West	Banks,Discount	
14	Boots	Industrials A-D	
15	Travis Perkins	Building,Roads	
16	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
17	Marley	Building,Roads	
18	Mowlem (John)	Building,Roads	
19	APV	Industrials A-D	
20	Gerrard Nat	Banks,Discount	
21	Amec	Building,Roads	
22	Pilkington	Industrials L-R	
23	Rentokil	Chemicals,Plas	
24	Morgan Cble	Industrials L-R	
25	Laporte	Chemicals,Plas	
26	McAlpine (Alfred)	Building,Roads	
27	Christies Int	Industrials A-D	
28	Enterprise	Oil,Gas	
29	Kingfisher	Drapery,Stores	
30	Tarmac	Building,Roads	
31	Br Aerospace	Motors,Aircraft	
32	Honda Motor	Motors,Aircraft	
33	BAA	Transport	
34	Woodside	Oil,Gas	
35	Manpower	Industrials L-R	
36	Jessups	Motors,Aircraft	
37	Abbott Mead	Paper,Print,Adv	
38	Pearson	Newspapers,Pub	
39	Cookson	Industrials A-D	
40	Vickers	Industrials S-Z	
41	Iceland Frozen	Foods	
42	Hammerson	Property	
43	Plysu	Chemicals,Plas	
44	Gr Portland	Property	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000

Claims required for +37 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

1990/91 High	Low	Stock	Price	Ch'ge	Int. only yld%	Gross Red yld%
[illegible]						

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]								

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 26

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

TRANSPORT

WATER

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
314	281	Anglian Water	301	305	+3	20.4	5.5	8.7
330	283	Northumbrian	302	305	–	21.4	5.7	4.8
316	257	North West	304	307	+2	21.0	5.8	8.2
303½	251	Severn Trent	284	287	+6	19.6	5.6	8.2
300	229	Sthn Water	285	289	+1	20.0	5.9	7.3
327	255	South West	283	289	+3	23.2	6.3	5.9
333	253	Thames Water	308	311	–	21.4	5.9	8.3
358	272	Welsh Water	330	333	+4	22.4	5.6	6.5
335	255	Wessex Water	328	333	-2	20.3	5.1	7.7
330	264	Yorkshire Water	327	332	+4	20.6	5.2	8.8
£713.5	£1000	Package Unit	£3026		+£37			

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL Tel: 0345 717373 (Linkline)				
Masterfst Acc	88.95	95.14e	-0.14	2.25
Inc	82.43	88.41	-0.15	1.61
Div/Gth	80.43	89.84	-0.07	5.89
Global Gth Sec	51.45	54.73	..	1.89
Ethical	50.35	53.85c	+0.03	3.03
High Inc Equity	139.4	148.2●	+0.4	5.74
W'wide Bond	203.2	215.4●	-0.7	8.86
Gilt/Fixed	112.7	119.5c	+0.2	9.82
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10, Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ Tel: 0224 633070 dealing (Freephone) 0800 833580 30, Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ Tel: 071-374 8801				
Am Inc/Gth	29.51	31.34●	+0.26	2.55
Euro	72.12	76.55	+0.26	0.00
Euro Inc	75.53	78.69●	+0.25	1.54
Exempt	740.3	785.8●	+3.1	5.37
Extra Inc	39.44	42.82e	-0.14	5.87
F/E Emerg Ec	52.77	56.79	+0.15	1.13
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL Tel: 0793 514514 dealing:0793 610366				
High Inc	353.8	376.7	-2.3	5.23
Equity Inc	192.8	205.9	-1.2	5.21
High Yield	203.1	215.3●	-1.0	5.14
Balanced	532.3	566.6c	-2.8	3.44
Am Inc	33.38	35.54	+0.34	4.14
World Ass Val	32.14	34.22	+0.07	1.84
Japan	135.8	143.7	+0.5	0.01
Sec of Am	298.1	317.4●	+5.1	0.01
BARCLAYS UNICORN Unicorn House, 252, Romford Rd E7 Tel: 081-534 5544				
Capit	88.57	95.18	+0.30	3.59
Euro Gth Inc	93.40	99.63	+0.64	1.40
Extra Inc	95.56	102.2●	-0.10	6.17
General	196.7	210.4	+0.3	3.84
Gt/Fxd Income	50.57	52.20●	-1.12	10.19
Inc Trust	440.7	471.3	+0.4	5.83
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ Tel: 081-658 9002				
Amer Gth	63.39	67.08	+0.81	0.50
Am Sm Cos	69.60	74.04●	+0.82	0.30
Australia	57.99	62.35●	+0.15	1.20
Convertible	45.72	48.89	+0.25	8.80
East	135.1	144.1	+0.1	1.20
Equity Inc	75.97	80.81●	+0.06	6.40

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
F East/Gen	50.27	53.48●	+0.20	0.00
Do Acc	50.27	53.48●	+0.20	0.00
Gilt/Warr	230.0	244.7	+0.5	2.04
Do Acc	249.3	265.3	+0.5	2.04
Growth	281.9	299.9	+0.9	3.23
Do Acc	459.7	489.0	+1.8	3.23
Inc &Gth Inc	323.2	343.9	-0.7	5.22
Do Acc	392.5	417.6	-0.9	5.22
Master Portf	102.15	95.49●	-0.02	3.06
Do Acc	100.82	95.30●	-0.03	3.06
Spec Sits	63.01	67.04	+0.04	3.30
Do Acc	70.13	74.61	+0.04	3.30
Exempt Fund				
High Yld Exmt	£10.07	10.39●	-0.04	5.75
Do Acc	£10.89	11.22●	-0.04	5.75
CAPEL (JAMES) MANAGEMENT 3, Harbour Exchange Square, London, E14 9GJ. Tel: Telephone 071-895 5050 Dealings : 071-895 5055				
Amer Index	142.2	151.7	+0.7	2.02
Capit	458.7	487.4●	-1.5	4.07
Euro Index	109.5	116.5	+0.5	1.62
Euro Growth	71.45	76.26	+0.47	2.49
Far East S S	68.57	73.16	+0.01	1.24
Gold Gen S S	61.01	65.11	+0.70	4.78
Income	494.5	483.7●	-1.0	5.28
Intl Gth	81.58	86.72	+0.20	2.13
Jap Index	84.72	89.07	-0.28	0.21
N Amer	289.4	305.8●	+2.0	1.75
Tiger Index	91.73	97.89	+0.35	1.14
UK Index	105.8	112.9	-0.4	4.15
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 18 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2R 7AN Tel: 071-606 0708				
Amer Portf	56.38	60.25c	-0.04	1.83
Euro Portf	62.80	66.11	+0.06	0.88
Jap Portf	45.54	48.46	-0.06	0.00
Pacific Portf	60.37	64.92c	-0.91	3.38
Portf	59.61	63.76	+0.10	2.88
UK Inc/Gth	56.50	60.75	+0.30	4.77
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 071-588 1815				
Inv	598.5	545.5c	..	5.21
Fixed Int	136.8	137.4c	..	10.58
Deposit	100.0		..	11.95
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 071-588 1815				

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
EAGLE STAR UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ Tel: 0242 577555				
Orient Gp Acc	62.84	66.85	..	1.27
Japanese	54.28	57.74	-0.30	0.00
UK Balan Inc	93.85	99.83e	+0.11	3.50
Do Acc	104.2	110.8c	+0.1	3.50
UK Gth Accum	152.0	161.7●	+0.3	2.21
UK Hi Inc	110.4	117.4●	+0.1	5.92
UK Hi Inc Acc	118.8	126.1●	+0.1	5.92
N Amer Acc	75.63	80.48	+0.18	1.14
Euro Acc	103.7	110.3	+0.6	0.25
UK Pref/Fi Inc	64.86	68.19c	+0.14	6.20
Do Acc	76.02	80.85c	+0.20	6.20
Intl Sp S Acc	40.13	42.66	-0.09	0.67
Emerald Opp	62.87	66.24●	+0.01	1.43
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 41, Harrington Gardens London SW7 4JU Tel: 071 373 7281				
Endurance	144.2	153.4	..	1.85
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton Street Aylesbury, HP21 7QW Tel: 0296 431480				
Eqtble Pelican	102.6	108.0●	-0.48	5.00
High Inc	105.9	111.5●	-0.60	6.35
Gt/Fxd Interest	48.97	51.56	+0.11	9.12
T Of Inv Ts	111.1	116.9	+0.02	3.17
Spec Sits	96.64	101.8	-0.36	4.36
N Am	71.80	75.59	+1.00	1.18
Far East	177.4	186.7	+0.13	1.38
Intl Gth	74.94	78.88	+0.22	2.33
Euro	56.93	59.93	+0.42	1.85
Smlr Cos	55.73	58.66	+0.04	4.79
EQUITY & LAW St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1GD Tel: 0203 553231				
UK Gth Accum	282.2	298.3●	+0.2	3.61
Do Inc	189.6	201.6●	+0.2	3.61
Higher Inc Acc	446.6	475.4●	-0.4	5.21
Do Inc	295.9	314.8●	-0.3	5.21
Gilt/Fxd Acc	133.3	140.4	+0.2	9.09
Do Inc	78.75	83.05	+0.18	9.09
N America	155.1	165.0●	+1.3	0.00
Far East	227.3	241.9●	-0.4	0.82
Europe	206.1	219.3	+0.2	0.13
Genl	345.6	367.7	+0.7	3.63
Genl Acc	357.7	380.6	+0.8	3.63
Br Excellence	52.30	55.64●	-0.04	3.59
Br Fdnds Inc	57.00	60.64	-0.07	6.20
Do Acc	66.92	71.20	-0.07	6.20
Global Opp	54.95	58.49●	+0.09	0.30

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Global	33.16	35.62	+0.30	1.41
European	61.78	65.05	+0.11	1.80
Japan	98.3	103.0	..	0.01
Strategic Opp	47.00	50.27●	-0.09	2.15
Intl Currency	46.36	49.17●	-0.03	6.17
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF Tel: Enquiries: 061-236 5685 Dealings:061-236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
Am & Gen	88.35	93.99	+0.83	0.44
Do Acc	93.87	99.87	+0.86	0.44
European	58.36	62.03	+0.25	1.43
Do Acc	59.72	63.48	+0.26	1.43

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Capit	117.5	125.0●	-0.2	2.40
Convertible	22.06	23.44c	+0.09	8.92
Eurofund	32.12	33.94	+0.17	1.18
Exmpt Mngd	140.8	146.1	..	3.94
Extra Inc	63.32	67.59	-0.26	7.67
Growth/Inc	198.2	210.6	-0.5	5.10
High Dist	139.8	148.5●	-0.5	7.00
High Inc	99.31	106.0●	-0.46	7.29
Intl	262.8	279.2	+0.1	1.58
Intl Inc	61.74	65.62	+0.17	6.19
Pacific	38.06	40.44	-0.11	0.89
Smlr Jap Cos	68.45	72.71	-0.21	0.00
Tokyo	174.8	185.1	-0.7	0.00
Ex Am 2	150.0	154.1	..	1.62
Ex Jap 3	118.5	121.8c	-1.8	0.08
Ex Smlr Jap 4	572.7	586.4	..	0.06

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Am Sp Sits	77.77	83.18	-0.04	0.00
UK Cap Inc	141.1	151.0	..	4.26
Do Acc	227.3	243.1	-0.2	4.26
Do Spec Sits	49.41	52.85	+0.08	2.18
Inc Fund	101.9	109.0	-0.1	7.50
Intl	181.7	194.2	+1.0	1.29
US/Genl	60.73	64.65●	+0.52	0.70
Jap & Genl	370.8	393.5	-3.8	0.00
Far East/Gen	192.8	206.0	+0.2	0.38
Euro	320.5	341.3	-0.6	1.13
Germany	86.96	92.19	+1.08	0.00
Intl Inc	55.13	58.82c	+0.47	5.66
W'wid Spec Sit	83.76	89.59	-0.47	0.14
Global Prp Inc	45.86	49.05●	+0.10	3.00
Do Acc	47.26	50.55●	+0.11	3.00
Smlr Cos Div	40.56	43.40	-0.03	6.62

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
36, Queen Street London EC4 1DN Tel: 071-236 4216				
Brit/Comm	177.7	189.9●	-0.3	2.15
Inc Plus	88.73	94.90●	..	2.95
Cap Gth	87.89	93.01●	..	3.04
Invest Trst	98.46	105.2●	..	0.90
KEY FUND MANAGERS 35, Fountain Street Manchester M2 2AF Tel: 061 236 5362				
Equity/Gen	61.17	65.08	-0.14	3.85
Gt/Fxd Interest	68.21	72.18	-0.03	8.81
Higher Inc	152.2	161.5	-0.2	6.37
Income	84.47	90.35●	-0.25	5.87
Intl	71.41	75.79e	+0.13	2.82
Smlr Cos	55.29	59.14	-0.01	3.42

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Do Acc	69.4	73.3e	+0.1	6.66
Intl Gth Inc	51.5	54.9e	-0.1	1.12
Do Acc	87.3	93.0e	-0.1	1.12
Intl Inc	68.7	72.8e	-0.2	5.51
Jap Acc	43.7	46.2e	-0.2	0.00
Jap Smlr Acc	137.0	144.8	-0.2	0.00
Midland/Gen	44.4	47.5e	+0.5	5.83
Do Acc	130.8	139.9e	+1.6	5.83
Recov Inc	28.7	30.3e	+0.1	4.75
Do Acc	42.1	44.5e	..	4.75
2nd Gen Inc	48.6	51.4	+0.1	4.95
Do Acc	109.8	116.2	+0.2	4.95
Sml Co Acc	89.3	94.4e	+0.1	4.62
Sml Co Inc	50.8	53.5e	+0.1	4.62
Trustee Inc	31.3	33.1e	..	5.22
Charibd Inc 3	98.11		●+0.28	10.88

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Do Acc	138.1	138.1	-0.2	2.93
Euro Gth Inc	137.2	146.2●	+1.5	1.10
Do Acc	170.3	181.5●	+1.9	1.10
Extra High Inc	66.55	70.43	..	7.22
Do Acc	100.0	107.0	..	7.22
Gt/Fxd Income	50.59	52.82c	+0.09	9.61
Do Acc	116.4	121.5e	+0.3	9.61
High Yield	197.8	211.8●	-0.3	5.79
Do Acc	422.7	452.1●	-1.5	5.79
Income	251.0	268.4	-0.4	4.84
Do Acc	481.8	515.3	-0.8	4.84
Intl High St Dis	59.31	63.43●	+0.13	1.73
Do Acc	62.66	67.02●	+0.14	1.73
Jap Growth	279.3	299.0	-1.5	0.00
Do Acc	294.2	315.0	-1.6	0.00
Mandarin Acc	64.64	69.13●	-0.24	1.41

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Holb	23.16	24.77	-0.04	1.90
Holb Cash Hws	102.97		+0.02	12.92
Holb Equity	558.8	597.8●	-2.75	3.26
Holb Eqty Inc	67.17	71.89●	-0.28	4.90
Holb Euro	139.0	148.7●	-0.57	1.96
Holb Global	62.50	66.84	-0.12	2.40
Holb High Inc	75.75	81.01	-0.28	6.19
Holb Intl	121.8	130.0	+0.27	1.66
Holb Intl SC	50.97	54.51	+0.17	1.29
Holb Japanese	146.5	156.7	-0.36	0.00
Holb N Amer	91.56	97.94●	+0.86	1.03
Holb Pac Mkt	51.09	54.64	+0.36	2.80
Holb Premier	42.17	43.98e	+0.06	6.12
Holb Smlr Cos	66.27	70.67●	-0.22	2.75
Holb Spec Sits	81.79	87.48	-0.62	3.52
Holb UK Gth	90.79	97.10	-0.75	3.56

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Mngd Cash	98.57	101.3	+0.02	11.84
Major Ser Inc	100.4	101.4	+0.02	11.54
PEP	134.7	142.6	+1.1	3.54
Select PPP	273.0	282.4	..	0.06
SUN ALLIANCE Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex Tel: 0403 56293				
Equity Acc	592.8	634.0	+0.4	3.47
N Am Acc	74.81	80.01	+0.82	1.19
Far East Acc	95.57	102.0	+0.20	0.82
W'wide Bond	45.58	48.47●	..	6.13
European	66.33	70.94	+0.37	1.28
Equity Inc	70.08	74.95c	-0.07	5.42
W'wide Tech	40.77	43.60	-0.01	0.97
W'wide Fixd	34.27	36.65	+0.04	3.46

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
18 Chapside London EC2V 6AU Tel: 071-236 1985				
Acc Gold	8.70	9.35	-0.16	0.60
Pacific Basin	27.19	28.92e	-0.28	0.60
Canadian Gth	36.43	38.79●	-0.30	0.39
Global Bond	96.22	102.4c	+0.34	8.76
Penny Share	20.41	23.71c	-0.04	0.20
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Ln EC2 8BT Tel: 071-606 3132				
City Res		53.77	+0.01	12.94
UK Gth	82.22	82.96	+0.16	1.76
Gilt Inc	47.42	48.39	+0.13	8.74
Shr Dtd Gilt	29.27	30.44	+0.08	4.81
US Govt Bond	64.29	65.11	+0.05	0.00
Challenger	65.42	68.00	+0.12	0.10
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Oak Square Swanley BR8 7AG Tel: 0795 388045				
Stockmkt Fnd	50.38	53.95	-0.39	3.44

The prices in this section refer to Wednesday's trading

** Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return) ● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. m Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
26	21	ASB Barnett	20	25	—	—	—	—
83	38	ASD	73	78	—	—	—	5.4
21	15	ATA Selection	12	17	—	1.3b	8.7	—
16	12	Aberdeen Pet	14	15	-½	—	—	29.0
35	24	Aberdeen Stk Hse	22	27	—	—	—	47.2
200	168	Acal	197	202	—	6.6	3.3	11.0
16	12	Acorn Comp	12	15	+1	—	—	5.8
166	130	Airsprung	158	165	—	7.6	4.8	12.5
142	102	Alan Paul	118	122	-11	4.1	3.4	12.0
41	36	Albrighton	35	40	—	—	—	2.1
142	88	Allen	132	136	—	6.4	4.8	8.8
40	20	Amberley Gp	35	40	+3	2.0	5.3	11.1
198	120	Amer Bus Sys	193	198	—	3.5	1.8	8.4
19	13	Anglo Pac Res	14	18	—	—●	—	—
13½	5½	Apollo Watch Prods	4½	6½	—	—	—	5.9
185	130	App Holographics	150	160	+7	—	—	—
182	80	Ashtead	155	165 r	—	5.5b	3.4	5.8
165	85	Aspen Comms	150	155●	—	10.6b	7.1	7.3
338	263	Asprey	280	300	-5	5.8	2.0	15.5
6	3	Assoc Energy	2½	3½	—	—	—	—
55	40	Assoc Farmers	38	43	—	—	—	—
158	78	Assoc Nursing	90	95	—	4.0	4.3	10.8
23	13	Atlantic Sec	10	15	—	—	—	23.8
773	650	Atlas Equipment	750	765●	—	28.0	3.4	17.2
5	3½	Audit General	—	—	—	0.41	—	—
53	38	Automagic	35	40	—	1.9	5.0	10.2
25	14	BBB Design	22	25	—	2.8e	11.7	4.4

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
266	188	Gibbs Mew	185	195	—	9.0	4.7	74.8
28	18	Global	25	28	—	0.7	2.6	8.8
220	184½	Great Southern	205	215●	—	11.3	5.4	15.8
153	100	Green (Ernest)	132	140	+1	9.3	6.8	5.1
9	4½	Greenacre	6	7½●	—	0.3	4.3	14.9
8	6	Greenwich Comms	6	8	—	—	—	—
11	7	Guildhouse	5	9	—	0.1	1.4	—
188	148	Hadleigh Inds	180	187	—	8.3	4.5	9.7
22	7	Halls Homes	5	8	—	1.3	18.6	—
31	23	Hampden Homecare	22	27	—	0.3	1.2	12.5
221	78	Handley Walker	95	100●	—	10.7	10.9	7.4
11	6	Harcourt	8	10	—	—	—	—
18	12	Harmony Leisure	13	17	+1	—	—	—
7½	2	Hawthorn Leslie	1½	2½	-½	—	—	1.3
255	222½	Headlam	200	250	—	4.1	1.8	28.2
195	170	do 'A' LV	150	200	—	4.1	2.3	21.8
35	18	Heritage	30	35	—	—	—	—
88	73	Hewetson	80	85	—	6.0	7.2	5.1
25	20	Hey & Croft	22	25	—	—	—	—
70	59	Hiclass	55	63	-1	—	—	7.1
13	6½	Hobson	9	11	—	—	—	—
125	75	Holders Tech	75	85●	—	8.0	10.0	9.4
50	20	Honeysuckle Gp	28	32	—	—	—	—
259	226	Hornby	231	235●	-1	12.0	5.2	7.9
11	4	Hughes Food	4	6	—	—	—	2.0
242	105	Huntleigh Tech	218	228●	-7	4.0	1.8	17.7

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
18	13	Specialeyes	16	19	—	—	—	—
45	36	Stainless Metal	35	40	—	1.3	3.4	—
128	69	Stanhope Props	73	78	—	0.1	0.1	15.4
77	25	Sterling Pub	40	45 r	—	3.3	7.7	3.5
58	27	Sterling Tst	53	57	-1	5.3	9.8	8.9
21	12	Sturleigh Elect	15	18	—	—	—	—
48	38	Sutherland	44	46	—	2.1	4.7	—
104	80	Sympson Comp	75	85 r	—	4.5	5.6	—
8	8	TDS Circuits	6	10	—	—!	—	—
43	21	TLS Range	41	44	—	2.4	5.6	9.8
359	198	TMD Advert	340	360	—	8.4	2.4	18.6
217	183	TV-am	180	185●	-3	18.7	11.5	6.5
31	19	Tenmile	17	20	-2	—	—	9.7
77	70	Tinsley (Eliza)	70	77	—	6.8	9.3	6.7
68	40	Titan	65	70●	—	4.0	5.9	12.6
41	28	Tomkins Hire	32	35	—	2.1	8.2	10.8
13	10	Total Systems	11	14	—	—	—	—
4½	1½	Tranwood	3	3½	—	—	—	—
133	79	Transworld	120	125	—	—	—	5.2
88	58	Treatt	83	88	—	4.3	5.0	11.8
88	40	Trencherwood	45	52	-5	—	—	—
53	39	Trevian Hldgs	40	45	-1	—	—	3.4
21	10	Trilion	13	18	—	0.7	4.7	—
5	1½	Tubular Edgtn	1½	1½	—	—	—	4.7
28	22	Tudor	25	30●	—	3.8	12.9	8.6
385	248	Utd Friendly	370	378	—	13.7	3.7	28.8
145	85	Unit Group	85	90	—	—	—	9.9
65	43	Usher (Frank)	41	45	—	6.0	14.0	3.9
9	3	Venture Plant	6	7½	—	—	—	—
83	69	VTR Plc	65	70●	—	4.5	8.6	6.5
18	8½	Vistec	14	15½	—	—	—	16.1
14	8	Welpac	11½	12½	—	0.7	5.8	11.6
78	55	Wessum	73	77●	—	4.7	6.3	11.3
18	12	Wentworth	15	18	—	—	—	5.6
44	30	Wescol	37	40	—	—	—	21.9
8½	3	Westport	4½	4½	—	0.8	17.8	3.2
53	28	West Scotfield	27	30	—	2.7	9.3	—
32	7	Wharfside	28	31	—	—	—	93.8
34	28	Whinney Mackay	25	30	—	1.3	4.5	10.1
95	50	Wood John D & Co	72	80	—	2.9	3.8	21.5
31	15	Wld of Leather	25	30	—	—	—	—
187	121	Wyevale	177	182	—	4.5	2.5	21.3
68	54	Wyko	58	62	—	5.0	8.3	8.6
7	4½	XCL Services	4½	5	—	—	—	—
7	5	Xtra-vision	3	7	—	—	—	—
133	120	Young Group	125	128	—	6.9	5.4	14.1
4½	2½	Zurich Group	2½	3	—	—	—	—

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
13½	9½	Alliance	12½	13	—	53.3	4.1	31.9
179	125	Amer Trust	175	177	—	6.3	3.6	43.0
289	213	Ang & O'seas	282	285	—	8.2	2.9	43.0
87	67	Anglo Scot Inv Tst	80	82	—	6.0	7.4	15.8
108	90	BZW Conv	98	100	—	8.0	8.0	22.3
109	77	Bankers	107	110●	+1	3.9	3.6	34.0
146	105	Berry Starq	134	137●	—	2.4	1.8	32.4
85½	65½	Br Assets	82½	83½●	—	5.3b	6.4	24.7
58	42½	Br Empire Sec	50	51●	—	1.0	2.0	64.7
18	10	Do Wnts	9	12	—	—	—	—
861	515	Br Inv	680	690	—	30.8	4.4	26.7
166	128	Brunner	159	162	—	5.7	3.6	30.7
14½	11½	City & Comm	14½	14½	—	—	—	—
166	127	Contl Assets	154	157	—	0.9	0.6	—
228	191	Derby Inc	226	230	—	23.5	10.3	12.9
216	169	Do Cap	190	197	-1	—	—	—
92	52	Drayton Asia	86	90	+1	0.8	1.0	88.6
410	313	Drayton Cons	322	330●	—	22.7	7.0	19.2
102	76	Drayton Eng Intl	85	88●	—	4.3	4.9	27.5

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
113	89½	Inv Cap	108	110●	—	6.7b	6.1	22.0
97	76	Ivory Sime Opt Inc	93	95	-1	9.1	9.7	28.9
142½	130½	Ivory Sime 6% Pf	141	143	—	—	—	—
181	139	Kleinwort Charter	153	156	-1	6.4	4.3	25.2
166	124	Kleinwort O 'seas	161	163	—	4.8	2.7	45.1
124	90	Kleinwort Smaller	114	117	+1	6.1	5.3	21.8
427	325	Law Debenture	425	428	+3	21.5	5.0	24.2
301	233	Majedie	285	290	—	11.3	3.9	30.8
215	164	Merchants	204	206●	-1	13.3b	6.5	20.2
24	18	Merrill Lynch	22		●-½			
357	288	Monks Inv Tst	353	356	+1	6.3	2.3	58.2
249	195	Murray Income	243	245	-2	12.9	5.3	23.9
229	176	Murray Intl	223	227●	-1	14.5	6.4	20.0
249	181½	Murray Small	247	249	—	4.5	1.8	80.0
247	202	Murray Venture	205	210●	—	12.7	6.1	17.8
58	49	New Frontier	50	53	—	0.3	0.6	69.3
77½	62½	do 6½% Ln	75	80	—	650	8.4	—
116	95	Nthrng Inc 83	114	117	+1	10.7b	9.2	13.6
248	183	O'seas Inv Tst	242	247●	—	3.2	1.3	—
225	153	Pacific Assets	218	221	—	1.2	0.5	74.8
9	2	Pantheon Gp	6	8	—	—a	—	—
52½	34	Perpetual Assets	52	53	+½	2.0	3.8	34.8
99	85	RIT Cap Prtnrs	90	93●	—	3.3	3.6	26.1
126	76	River & Merc	108	113	—	—	—	—
305	253	Robeco	295	—	—	—	—	—
352	285	Rolinco	290	—	—	—	—	—
10½	10½	Romeyo	10½	—	—	—	—	—
238	189	St Andrew Inv Tst	232	236	—	9.8b	4.1	31.5
188	134	Scottish	165	167	—	5.4	3.3	40.9
116½	92½	Scot American	114½	115½	—	5.3b	4.6	26.9
60	46	Scot Eastern	58½	59½	—	1.8	3.1	41.8
95	63	Scot Merc 'A'	92	95	—	4.6	4.9	26.8
155	114	Scot Mtgs	150	151●	-½	4.9	3.3	34.0
11½	8½	Second Alliance	11½	11½	—	44.7	3.9	41.8
73	57½	Secs Tst of Scotland	70	71½●	—	4.1b	5.8	22.9
102	71	Selection Asset	94	97	—	1.0	1.0	49.7
33	22	Sphere Inv	30	31●	—	5.2p	17.0	9.4
328	254	Strat Enrdl	287	275●	-14	18.3	6.8	14.2
94	56	TR Far East	89	91●	—	5.3b	5.9	18.6
117	84½	Tr City Of Lon	116	116●	—	5.9	5.1	28.8
89	49	TR Pacific	81	82	—	0.3	0.4	—
37	29½	TR Property	33	34½	—	1.9	5.6	20.7
52	30	TR Tech Inv	48	52	—	2.1	4.1	18.3
142	86	TR Smlr Cos	136	137	—	4.5	3.3	38.6
273	210	Temple Bar	259	263	-1	15.9	6.1	18.3
104	54	Thornton Asian Emg	68	78●	—	0.7	1.0	—
84	45½	Throgmorton	57	59	+½	2.9	5.0	31.9
360	288	Throg Dual	320	345	—	—	—	—
244	189	Tribune	236	240	—	7.8	3.3	31.4
165	133	USDC Investment	163	165	—	5.7	3.5	34.0
73	56	Value Inc Tst	64	66	—	3.8b	5.9	13.8
108	85	Westpool	105	108	—	2.9	2.7	30.1
695	476	Whitbread Inv	665	680	-1	18.5	3.3	30.7
165	125	Witan	158	166	+½	6.3	4.1	28.7

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 92.0 (day's range 91.8-92.0).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 23	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.7200-1.7375	1.7365-1.7375	0.85-0.83pr	2.28-2.26pr
Montrl	1.9792-2.0025	1.9967-2.0025	0.49-0.44pr	0.90-0.82pr
Amstrdm	3.3437-3.3525	3.3489-3.3525	⅞-⅝pr	2-1⅞pr
Brussels	60.96-61.26	61.06-61.26	16-12pr	39-34pr
Copnhgn	11.3427-11.3997	11.3758-11.3997	2¼-1⅝pr	5⅞-4½pr
Dublin	1.1092-1.1107	1.1092-1.1102	17-11pr	46-35pr
Frankft	2.9887-2.9756	2.9722-2.9756	¾-⅝pr	1⅞-1⅝pr
Lisbon	258.46-261.19	259.17-261.19	41-5pr	29-80ds
Madrid	183.52-184.70	184.07-184.70	4-22ds	11-82ds
Milan	2203.32-2231.81	2227.06-2231.81	1pr-1ds	2-1pr
Oslo	11.5412-11.5891	11.5851-11.5891	2⅜-1⅞pr	4⅝-3⅝pr
Paris	10.0706-10.1200	10.0934-10.1166	2⅜-1⅞pr	5½-5⅛pr
Stckhlm	10.6313-10.6857	10.6413-10.6848	⅝-⅜pr	1½-¾pr
Tokyo	237.27-239.16	238.86-239.16	⅝-⅜pr	2⅜-2pr
Vienna	20.87-20.94	20.90-20.93	4⅝-3⅝pr	12⅝-10pr
Zurich	2.5156-2.5255	2.5223-2.5255	⅞-⅝pr	2⅜-1⅞pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	16973.9-16991.2
Australia dollar	2.2739-2.2774
Bahrain dinar	0.6455-0.6535
Brazil cruzeiro *	473.96-474.78
Cyprus pound	0.808-0.818
Finland marka	6.985-7.045
Greece drachma	324.40-327.60
Hong Kong dollar	13.3985-13.4061
India rupee	35.46-35.86
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	4.7420-4.7486
Mexico peso	5100-5250
New Zealand dollar	2.9744-2.9813
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.4225-6.5025
Singapore dollar	3.0462-3.0500
S Africa rand (fin)	n/a
S Africa rand (com)	4.8480-4.8561
U A E dirham	6.2675-6.3675

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank.*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5495-1.5510
Singapore	1.7685-1.7695
Malaysia	2.7585-2.7595
Australia	1.3183-1.3198
Canada	1.1514-1.1519
Sweden	6.1870-6.1920
Norway	6.7170-6.7220
Denmark	6.6130-6.6180
W Germany	1.7240-1.7250
Switzerland	1.4540-1.4547
Netherlands	1.9460-1.9470
France	5.8650-5.8790
Japan	137.80-137.90
Italy	1282.5-1283.5
Belgium (Com)	35.46-35.50
Hong Kong	7.7855-7.7865
Portugal	150.60-150.80
Spain	107.00-107.10
Austria	12.13-12.15

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Apr 30, 1991 Agreed rates May 26, 1991 to Jun 25, 1991 Scheme I: 13.07%. Schemes II & III: 13.32%. Reference rate Mar 29, 1991 to Apr 30, 1991 Scheme IV & V: 12.024%.

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 12 Finance Hse 12½

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 13 Low 12 Week fixed: 12½

Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 11⅛ ; 3 mth 10 15/16. Sell: 2 mth 11 ; 3 mth: 10 13/16.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	11⅝-11 7/16	11 9/32-11 7/32	11 1/16-10⅞	10⅞-10 9/16	
Sterling Money Rates:	12-11⅞	11 11/16-11 9/16	11½-11 7/16	11¼-11⅛	11⅛-11
Interbank:	11 11/16-11⅝	11 9/16-11½	11⅜-11 5/16	11⅛-11 1/16	11-10⅞
(Overnight: open 13 , close 12⅞.					
Local Authority Deps:	11⅝	n/a	11⅜	11 3/16	11 1/16
Sterling CDs:	11 13/16-11⅝	11 21/32-17/32	11½-11⅜	11 3/16-1/16	11 1/16-10⅞
Dollar CDs:	5.88-5.83	5.92-5.87	5.95-5.90	6.08-6.03	6.47-6.42
Building Society CDs:	11 27/32-25/32	11 11/16-11 9/16	11 17/32-11⅜	11 5/16-3/16	11 3/16-11

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5 13/16-5 9/16	5 15/16-5⅞	6 1/16-5⅞	6 3/16-6	5⅞-5
Deutschemark:	8⅞-8⅝	8 13/16-11/16	8 15/16-13/16	9-8⅞	8⅞-7⅞
French Franc:	9⅞-9⅛	9 3/16-9 1/16	9 3/16-9 1/16	9 3/16-9 1/16	9¼-8⅞
Swiss Franc:	8⅞-8⅝	8⅛-8	8⅛-8	8⅛-8	8-7
Yen:	8-7⅞	7 15/16-13/16	7 13/16-11/16	7 11/16-7 9/16	7⅞-6⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS *(Baird & Co)*

Bullion: Open $354.70-355.20 Close: $354.90-355.40 High: $355.00-355.50 Low: $354.30-354.80 Krugerrand: $354.50-355.50 (£204.50-205.50)

Sovereigns: Old $83.50-84.50 (£48.50-49.50) New $83.00-84.00 (£48.00-49.00)

Platinum: $369.55 (£226.20) Silver: $4.07 (£2.345) Palladium: $93.73 (£54.45)

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 28082	Jun 91	2478.0	2498.0	2474.0	2495.0	3158
	Sep 91	2519.0	2528.0	2519.0	2537.0	79
	Dec 91				2577.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 128089	Jun 91	88.78	88.81	88.74	88.81	18454
	Sep 91	89.58	89.63	89.55	89.61	7722
	Dec 91	89.82	89.86	89.81	89.85	3088
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest: 36676	Jun 91	93.93	93.94	93.92	93.94	1781
	Sep 91	93.73	93.74	93.72	93.74	1666
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest: 116488	Jun 91	90.97	91.02	90.97	91.02	3810
	Sep 91	91.17	91.19	91.15	91.19	8805
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 6703	Jun 91	95-15	96-24	95-11	95-20	2198
	Sep 91	94-25	94-25	94-25	94-27	17
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 33821	Jun 91	90-28	91-02	90-21	91-00	15126
	Sep 91	91-05	91-09	90-30	91-06	364
Japanese Govt Bond	Jun 91	95.85	95.85	95.85	95.87	53
	Sep 91	96.18	96.22	96.17	96.22	580
German Govt Bond Previous open interest: 90844	Jun 91	85.42	85.57	85.42	85.51	30503
	Sep 91	85.65	85.78	85.63	85.70	2837
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 3312	Jun 91	90.54	90.55	90.52	90.55	480
	Sep 91	90.84	90.85	90.83	90.84	272

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
May	580-570	May	496-494	Aug	171.6-71.4
Jul	600-599	Jul	521-520	Oct	171.2-71.0
Sep	628-627	Sep	546-545	Dec	174.4-69.4
Dec	665-663	Nov	570-568	Mar	172.4-71.4
Mar	697-695	Jan	592-591	May	175.0-73.4
May	721-719	Mar	612-610	Aug	179.0-75.4
Vol: 982		Vol: 3128		Vol: 281	

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
Jun	134.50	Sep	107.70	Jun	133.0-30.0
Sep	111.45	Nov	111.50	Aug	129.5-28.0
Nov	114.25	Jan	114.80	Oct	133.0-31.5
Jan	117.90	Mar	117.75	Dec	136.0 SLR
Mar	120.85	May	116.60	Feb	141.0-39.8
Vol:	285	Vol:	0	Vol:	45

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 23

	Open	Close
Sep (£/tonne)	80.0	80.0
Oct	77.5	80.0
Nov	86.5	86.5

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 23

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	86.91	161.91	113.47
(+/−)	-6.96	*-30.86	+0.19
Eng/Wales:	86.91	160.45	112.92
(+/−)	-6.10	-32.27	-0.17
(%)	+5.1	+0.1	-19.2
Scotland:	n/a	167.14	116.74
(+/−)	n/a	-6.60	+2.85
(%)	n/a	-12.3	-42.4

* Estimated dead carcase weight

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (p/kg)

	Open:	Close:
May	unq	120.2
Jun	unq	120.8
Jul	unq	117.8

Volume: 126

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm: Another day of small upward movement, but the market appeared to be content to trade in a narrow range.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.80	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.90	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Jul)	19.30	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	21.05	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	21.10	+0.15

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	244 (+2)	247 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	187 (+1)	188 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Jun	182 (−1)	184 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Jul	180 (−1)	181 (−1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	88 (n/c)	89 (n/c)
Naphtha	206 (+2)	210 (+2)

IPE FUTURES

GAS OIL

Jun	180.00-79.75	Oct	181.25 BID
Jul	178.25-76.00	Nov	183.00 BID
Aug	177.75-77.00	Dec	184.00 BID
Sep	179.00 BID		Vol: 3158

BRENT

Jun	18.85-18.95	Aug	19.45-19.55
Jul	19.25-19.30		Vol: n/a

BIFFEX

GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 91	1745	1720	1740
Jun 91	1711	1690	1705
Jul 91	1582	1540	1575
Oct 91	1675	1655	1673

Vol: 416 lots Open interest: 2883

Dry cargo index 1899 +14

(Official) (Volume prev day) LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1295.0-1296.0	1309.0-1310.0	699450
Lead (£/tonne)	318.50-319.00	331.00-331.50	51000
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1083.0-1083.5	1098.0-1098.5	77325
Tin ($/tonne)	5675.0-5690.0	5760.0-5795.0	10255
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1286.0-1287.0	1317.0-1318.0	475825
Nickel ($/tonne)	8070.0-8080.0	8114.0-8115.0	20864

FOX MGMI INDEX (5pm prices)

	Bid	Offer
Jun	139.60	140.30
Jul	139.60	140.30
Aug	140.00	141.00

Vol: 294

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WALL STREET

New York

SHARES were firm in mid-morning trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average was 9 points up at 2,919.33 after reaching 2,924. Analysts reported continued buying in some drug and technology shares.

☐ **Tokyo** — Prices closed higher with 370 million shares changing hands. The Nikkei index rose 244.99 points to 25,643.65. *(Reuter)*

	May 23 midday	May 22 close		May 23 midday	May 22 close		May 23 midday	May 22 close
Abbott Lab	52%	52%	Enron	60%	59	Oryx Engy	33	33%
Aetna Life	39%	39%	Entergy	24%	24%	Pac Ent	30%	30%
Ahmanson	17%	17	Ethyl	27%	27%	Pac Gas Elec	25%	25%
Air Prods	67%	67	Exxon	58%	59	Pac Telesis	39%	39%
Albertsons	45%	45%	Fed NMA	47%	47%	Paccar	44%	45
Alcan Al	19%	19%	Fedrl Expre	38%	38%	Pacificorp	21%	21%
Alco Stand	30%	30%	Ft Norstar	24%	24%	Pall	35%	35%
Allied Signal	28%	29	Fluor	47%	47%	Paramount	37%	37%
Alumin CA	67%	67%	FMC	39%	40%	Parker-Hanin	25%	26%
Am Brands	39%	39%	Ford Motor	32%	32%	Penney	55%	55%
Am Cyanmd	64%	64%	FPL	31%	31%	Pennzoil	68%	68%
Am EPC	29%	29%	Fst Chicago	26%	25%	Pepsico	32%	32%
Am General	38%	39	Fst Intrsta	39%	39%	Pfizer	58%	58%
Am Home	60%	61%	Fst Union	20%	20%	Phlips Pet	25	25%
Am Intl	89%	89%	Gannett	41%	41%	Philips Elec	20%	20%
Am Medical	9%	9%	Gen Cinema	22%	22%	Phlp Morris	67%	68%
Am Stores	85%	85%	Gen Elec	72%	71%	Phelps Dodge	60	59%
Amax	22%	22%	Gen Mills	58%	58%	Pitney Bow	57%	58%
Amer Hess	52%	52%	Gen Motors	38%	37%	Plcr Dome	12%	12%
Ameritech	58%	58%	Gen RE	92%	91%	PNC Fncl	34%	34
Amex	23%	23%	Gen Signal	41%	41%	Prndle Estn	11%	11%
Amoco	50%	50%	Genentech	28%	28%	Polaroid	24%	24%
AMP	48%	49	Genuine Pts	40%	40%	PPG Inds	48%	48%
AMR	61%	60%	Georgia-Pac	47%	47	Prctr Gmble	82%	82%
Anheuser-B	51%	50%	Gillette	38%	72%	Price	54%	55%
Apple Comp	45%	46%	Goodrich	38%	38%	Primerica	29%	29%
Archer-Dan	22%	22%	Goodyear	24%	24%	Pub Service	27%	27%
Arkla	18	17%	Grace	29%	30	Quaker Oats	57%	57
Armstrong	26%	26%	Greyhound	34%	34%	Ralston Pur	53%	53%
Asarco	24%	24%	Gt Atlantic	45%	45%	Raychem	27%	27%
Ashland Oil	30%	30%	Gt Western	17%	17%	Raytheon	82	82%
AT&T	35%	35%	GTE	29%	30	Reebok	21%	22%
Atlan Richfld	120%	119%	Hallibrtn	42	43%	Roadway	49%	50
Auto DP	32%	32	Heinz	38	37%	Rockwell	28%	27%
Avery Intl	24	24	Hercules	38%	39	Rohm Haas	38%	37%
Avon Prod	44%	43%	Hershey Fd	43%	42%	Royal Dutch	81%	81%
Baltimore	29%	29%	Hewlett Pkd	50%	49%	Rubbermaid	51	50%
Banc One	37%	37%	Hilton Htl	48	47%	Rynlds Mtl	58%	57%
Bankamerica	39%	39	Home Depot	63%	62%	Safeco	39%	39%
Bard	26%	26%	Homestake	14	14%	Salomon	32	32%
Barnett Bl	29%	29%	Honeywell	57%	57%	Sant Fe Pac	8%	8%
Bausch Lmb	86%	86%	Houston Ind	37	38%	Sara Lee	38%	39
Baxter Intl	35%	34%	Hsehld Intl	44%	44%	Schecorp	39	39
Bec Dickin	78%	78%	Humana	50%	50%	Schlumbgr	60%	61%
Bell Atlan	46%	46%	IBM	104%	104%	Schrg-Plgh	53%	53%
Bellsouth	47%	47%	IF&F	81%	81%	Scott Papr	40%	40%
Blr Hughes	27%	27%	Illinois TW	58%	58%	Seagram	100%	101%
Black Decker	12%	12	Inco	32	33%	Sears Rbk	38%	38%
Block	54%	53%	Ingsol-Rand	48%	48%	Secrty Pac	26	25%
Bnkrs Tst NY	49%	49%	Inland Steel	19%	19%	Shrwn-Wlms	28%	23
Boeing	46%	46%	Intel	50	48%	Skyline	15%	15%
Boise Casc	24%	24%	Intl Paper	62%	62%	Snap-on Tls	29%	30
Borden	37%	37%	ITT	58%	58%	Southern	27%	27%
Brist-Myer	84%	84	James River	24%	24%	St Paul	67	66%
Browng-Fer	28	27%	Johnsn Jhsn	94%	94%	Stanley Wk	35	35%
Burl Nth	30%	30%	K Mart	43%	42%	Stone Cntr	17%	17%
CAI	9%	8%	Kellogg	95%	94%	Sun Co	31%	31%
Campbell Sp	80%	80%	Kerr-McGee	41%	42%	Suntst Bk	28%	27%
Cap Cities	442	444	Kimbly-Clrk	98%	98%	Super Valu	26%	26%
Capital HC	48%	48%	Knght-Riddr	53	53%	SW Bell	50	60%
Carolina	45%	45%	Lilly	80%	79%	Syntex	42%	43%
Caterpiller	46%	46%	Limited	27%	28%	Sysco	41%	40%
CBS	151	151%	Lin Brdcstg	84%	85%	Tandem	15%	14%
Central SW	45%	45%	Lincln Nat	46%	46%	Tandy	31%	31%
Champion	26%	26%	Litton Ind	82	82%	Tele-comm	18%	18
Chase Man	18%	18%	Lockheed	41%	41%	Teledyne	20	19%
Chem Bnkg	19%	19%	Louis-Pac	37	36%	Temple-In	39%	40
Chevron	73%	73%	Manu Hano	24%	24	Tenneco	43%	43%
Chrysler	12%	12%	Marriott	20%	20%	Texaco	64%	64
Chubb	67%	66%	Marsh Mclen	79	78%	Texas Inst	38%	37%
Cigna	48%	48%	Martin Mar	57%	58%	Texas Util	38%	38%
Citicorp	15%	15%	Masco	21%	21%	Textron	32%	32%
Clbrne Liz	43%	43%	May Dept	55%	55%	Time Wrnr	115%	112%
Clorox	39%	40%	Maytag	15%	15%	Times Mirr	28%	28%
Cmwlth Edis	37	37%	McDnl Doug	50%	49%	Timken	24%	24%
CNA Fincl	79%	80%	McDonalds	34%	34%	Torchmark	52%	52%
Coastal	36%	36%	McGraw-Hill	61	60%	Toys R Us	28%	28%
Coca-Cola	65%	58	MCI Com	29	28	Transam	32	32%
Colgate-Pal	39%	39%	Mead	33%	33%	Travelers	22%	22%
Columb Gas	40%	40%	Medtronic	115%	113%	Tribune	46%	46%
Compaq	37	37%	Mellon Bk	28%	28%	TRW	40	40
Conagra	45%	45%	Melville	48%	48%	Tyco Lab	49%	48%
Cons Edis	24	24	Merck	121%	121%	UAL	145%	143%
Cons NG	39%	39%	Merl Lynch	37%	38	Un Camp	41	41%
Cons Rail	51%	50%	MM&M	88%	88%	Un Carbide	19%	19%
Cooper Ind	49	48%	Mobil	65%	66	Un Pacific	82	81%
Corning	60%	60%	Monsanto	63%	62%	Unilever	80%	81%
CPC Intl	88%	87%	Moore	26%	26	Unisys	3%	3%
Crown Cork	72%	72%	Morgan	52%	52%	Unocal	25%	25%
CSX	42%	42%	Motorola	67	66%	Upjohn	42%	43%
Dana	32%	32%	Nat Medical	46%	46	US West	36%	36%
Dayton-Hud	75	74%	Nat Semi	6%	7	Usair Gp	16%	16%
Deere	49%	49%	Nat Service	24%	24%	USF&G	9%	9%
Delta Air	70%	70	Navistar	3%	3%	US Life	40	39%
Deluxe	40%	40%	NCNB	37%	37%	UST	43%	42%
Detroit Ed	29	29%	NCR	109%	109%	USX Mar	n/a	n/a
Digital Eq	64%	63%	NED Bncp	37%	37%	Utd Tech	44%	45%
Dillard	126%	124%	Newmont Min	33%	34%	Utd Telcm	28%	28%
Disney	120%	120%	Niagr Mhwk	15%	15%	VF	28%	28%
Dominion	48%	48%	Nike	38%	39	Wal-Mart	41%	41%
Donnelley	45%	45%	NL Indstrs	12%	13%	Waste Mgmt	38%	38%
Dover	38%	38%	Nordstorm	43%	43%	Wells Fargo	94%	93%
Dow Chem	53%	54%	Norflk Sthn	46%	46%	Westg Elec	27%	28%
Dow Jones	27%	27%	Norwest	28%	28%	Weyerhsr	27%	27%
Dresser Ind	20%	21%	Nthn St Pwr	33%	33%	Whirlpool	30%	30
Du Pont	43%	43%	Nthn Telcm	36%	36%	Whitman	13%	13%
Duke Pwr	27%	27%	NY Times	22%	22%	Winn-Dixie	36%	35%
Dun Bradst	48%	48%	Nynex	68%	68%	Woolworth	30%	30%
East Kodak	40%	41%	Occid Petrl	19%	20%	Wrigley	61%	62
Eaton	53%	54	Ohio Edi	18%	18%	Wrnr-Lamb	73%	73%
Emerson El	44%	44%	Oracle Sys	8%	8%	Xerox	55%	56%

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Lyons	500	64	85	92	5½	12	17
(*551)	550	30	53	62	23	30	36
	600	12	28	40	55	60	62
ASDA	100	14	16	19	2	4	6
(*111)	110	7	10	12	5	8½	9½
	120	3	6½	9	11	15	16
Bass	929	58	91	-	16	25	-
(*971)	977	30	63	-	38	49	-
	1026	13	40	-	77	79	-
Boots	330	41	51	56	4½	7½	10
(*370)	360	17	31	38	13	18	20
	390	5½	16½	24	33	36	37
Br Airways	140	22	25	28	3	5	7½
(*161)	160	7	13	17	10½	14½	17
	180	2	6½	9	28	30	31
BP	300	31	37	42	4	7	9½
(*322)	330	12	19	25	15	20	22
	360	3½	8	13	40	40	41
Br Steel	120	9	10	12	5	7	9
(*128)	130	3	5½	7½	12	14	15
	140	1½	3	4	21	22	23
C & W	500	31	48	62	16	23	27
(*512)	550	9	24	37	47	52	57
	600	2½	11	21	90	93	95
CU	460	43	50	63	5	13	16
(*490)	500	17	27	40	21	30	34
	550	3½	11	20	62	65	68
Courtauld	360	34	48	56	6½	11½	14
(*393)	390	16	30	38	19	25	27
	420	6	17	25	42	44	46
GKN	330	26	32	40	9	17	20
(*342)	360	10	17	26	25	35	37
	390	4	8½	16	50	57	57
Grand Met	750	48	69	86	17	30	35
(*775)	800	23	43	59	43	55	60
	850	8½	24	39	84	90	92
ICI	1200	85	113	148	31	54	60
(*1248)	1250	58	85	120	52	74	80
	1300	35	65	97	80	100	107
Kingfisher	460	40	55	70	11	18	22
(*483)	500	18	33	50	28	37	40
	550	5½	16	29	70	72	73
Ladbroke	260	19	26	34	8½	14	17
(*267)	280	9	16	24	20	25	28
	300	4	9½	16	37	38	41
Land Sec	500	20	35	45	13	18	22
(*517)	550	3	13	22	52	53	55
	600	1½	4	-	101	101	-
M & S	240	20	28	33	5½	7½	9½
(*251)	260	7½	15½	22	14	15½	19
	280	3	8	14	31	31	32
Sainsbury	330	54	64	72	1½	4	6
(*377)	360	29	42	50	7	11	14
	390	11	23	31	21	24	27
Shell	460	58	68	75	3	8½	11
(*505)	500	29	40	50	14	22	27
	550	8	16	28	45	50	52
Smid Beech	750	59	81	100	11	20	25
(*784)	800	28	51	71	30	41	46
	850	10½	31	48	68	69	72
Storehse	100	6	9½	-	7	9	-
(*101)	110	3	6	-	15	16	-
	120	1½	4	5½	23	24	25
Trafalgar	240	15	24	29	12	18	25
(*240)	260	8	16	21	25	29	37
	280	3	10	13	43	44	50
Unilever	650	100	120	-	2½	5	-
(*740)	700	57	78	95	7	13	18
	750	24	47	64	28	34	40
	800	8	25	39	67	67	72
Utd Bisc	330	48	56	62	1½	5½	7½
(*366)	360	22	32	42	8½	14	17
	390	9	18	27	26	30	32
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAA	390	42	49	60	1½	7½	12
(*433)	420	13	29	42	3½	19	23
	460	1	13	23	32	43	45
BAT Ind	600	102	105	112	1	5	11
(*697)	650	52	65	73	1	13	22
	700	9	36	47	10	32	43
	750	1	14	27	55	70	77
BTR	360	27	41	46	1	7	11
(*385)	390	2½	21	28	9	18	24
	420	1	9½	15½	38	38	42
Br Aero	550	55	70	80	1	10	18
(*603)	600	12	40	50	10	28	37
	650	½	16	27	55	58	65
Br Telecm	330	54	60	64	½	3	4½
(*384)	360	24	34	42	1	8	11½
	390	2	14	23	10	23	25
Cadbury	330	38	50	56	1	4	7
(*365)	360	10	27	36	3½	11	17
	390	1	12	21	25	29	32
Guinness	850	85	118	127	1	8	14
(*936)	900	35	75	90	1½	20	30
	950	4	43	63	22	41	48
GEC	180	19	23	25	½	3½	5
(*199)	200	2½	7½	13	3	13	15½
	220	½	3	6½	22	28	30
Hanson	200	11½	17½	23½	1	5	7½
(*213)	220		7½	13	11½	15½	17
	240	½	2½	6½	31½	34	34½
LASMO	330	8	25	35	6	17	22
(*331)	360	2½	13	24	30	35	38
	390	1	6	13	60	60	60

	Calls				Puts		
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
P & O	550	44	74	72	2	9	18
(*592)	600	4½	32	42	15	29	41
	650	1	13	23	63	65	74
Pilkington	160	17	22	26	1	7½	12
(*176)	180	2	10½	17	6	20	23
	200	1	6	10	27	37	37
Prudential	220	5½	17	21	3	9½	13
(*222)	240	1½	8	13	20	21	25
	260	1	3	6½	40	40	42
Racal	200	26	32	39	½	5½	9
(*224)	220	8	19	27	3	12	16
	240	1	11½	17	17	25	27
	260	½	6	12	37	41	44
RTZ	460	65	79	86	1	3½	8
(*525)	500	27	48	57	1	12	19
	550	1½	21	32	31	37	44
	600	1	6½	15	80	80	85
Scot New	330	63	68	-	1	2	-
(*392)	360	33	42	48	1	8	11
	390	5	21	30	4	21	25
	420	1½	9	17	32	41	45
Tesco	253	31	38	-	1½	3	-
(*283)	280	5	20	25	2½	9	11
	300	1	9	14	20	21	23
Thames W.	280	30	36	38	1	6	10
(*309)	300	11	20	23	2½	15	19
	330	1	6	11	24	37	40
Lucas	140	20	26	29	1	4	6½
(*158)	160	2½	11	17	4½	11	15
	180	1	5½	8	24	25	28
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Fisons	420	63	78	88	2½	5½	8
(*475)	460	32	49	60	11	16	19
	500	11½	27	38	32	36	39
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Abbey Nat	240	41	44	52	1	2½	4
(*277)	260	21	29	36	2½	7	9
	280	8	16	24	10	16	19
Barclays	420	26	37	46	7	19	23
(*435)	460	6	17	27	30	42	45
	500	1½	6½	14	68	73	74
Blue Circ	240	14	25	31	7	13	16
(*248)	260	5	15	20	18	23	26
	280	2	8	13	35	37	39
Br Gas	220	30	32	35	1½	4½	6½
(*245)	240	11½	15	21	4½	11½	13
	260	3	7	13	17	26	27
Dixons	180	22	27	32	2	6½	9
(*200)	200	8½	16	20	8½	16	18
	220	2	6	-	24	30	-
Glaxo	1050	100	135	152	4	21	28
(*1138)	1100	59	97	120	15	36	45
	1150	29	68	90	36	57	67
Hawker	500	70	92	102	3½	11	18
(*562)	550	31	60	72	13	28	36
	600	10	34	47	45	55	62
Hillsdown	220	14	24	29	5	8	12
(*226)	240	4½	14	19	16	21	22
	260	1½	7	12	35	35	37
Lonrho	240	19	24	31	3½	9	11
(*254)	260	7	13	20	12	20	22
	280	2	6½	14	29	34	36
Midland	180	35	40	45	1	4	6½
(*211)	200	17	24	32	4	9	14
	220	7	15	22	16	20	25
	240	1½	8	15	32	37	39
Reuters	750	95	118	145	4½	17	25
(*849)	800	54	85	112	13	32	40
	850	25	55	84	35	52	62
R-Royce	140	15	20	24	1½	4½	6½
(*155)	160	3½	9½	13	10	14	16
	180	1	4	6½	28	30	31
Sears	80	6	9	11	2½	4	5½
(*82)	90	2	4½	6½	10	10	11
	100	½	2	3½	20	20	20
THF	240	33	40	43	1½	4	7
(*270)	260	17	26	30	5	8½	14
	280	5½	14	19½	15	19	23
Thorn EMI	650	75	78	85	2	15	22
(*713)	700	32	40	50	12	36	41
	750	10	19	33	40	68	70
	800	2	9	-	90	112	-
TSB	130	24	27	-	1	1½	-
(*153)	140	14½	18	22	1½	3½	5
	160	2½	6	10	10	14	15
Wellcome	500	115	132	142	1½	4½	10
(*610)	550	65	90	103	4	13	19
	600	30	56	72	18	29	35

FT-SE INDEX (*£2483)

	2350	2400	2450	2500	2550	2600
Calls						
May	131	82	37½	9	2	½
Jun	137	106	67	39	19	9
Jul	170	133	100	67	45	26
Aug	185	147	114	84	61	41
Dec	—	215	—	155	—	102
Puts						
May	2	4	12	36	87	130
Jun	14	22	36	59	96	147
Jul	25	34	50	76	108	148
Aug	29	42	60	83	113	148
Dec	—	80	—	120	—	180

May 23, 1991 Total: 26250 Calls 16367 Puts 9883 FT-SE: Calls 4123 Puts 760

*Underlying security price.

Law Report May 24 1991 Chancery Division

Valuation of insurance companies

Transit Casualty Co (in receivership) and Another v Policyholders Protection Board and Others

Before Mr Justice Hoffmann

[Judgment May 15]

Guidance on the valuation of insurance companies faced with winding-up petitions was given by Mr Justice Hoffmann in the Chancery Division when giving his interpretation of rule 6 of the Insurance Companies (Winding Up) Rules (SI 1985 No 95) and its related Schedule 1.

Mr Gabriel Moss, QC and Mr Mark Phillips for the plaintiffs, Transit Casualty Co and Touche Ross & Co; Mr John Thomas, QC and Miss Catherine Newman for the Policyholders Protection Board; Mr Robin Potts, QC and Mr John Cone for the second to fifth defendants: Kingscroft Insurance Co Ltd, El Paso Insurance Co Ltd, Lime Street Insurance Co Ltd and Mutual Insurance Co Ltd; Mr Philip Heslop, QC and Mr Jonathan Crow for the sixth defendant, the Association of British Insurers.

MR JUSTICE HOFFMANN said the case raised questions of construction on the provisions of the Insurance Companies (Winding Up) Rules 1985 dealing with the valuation of the liabilities of an insolvent insurance company.

The second to fifth defendants were insurance companies authorised to carry on general business under the Insurance Companies Act 1982. They were actuarially insolvent since actual and contingent claims against them net of reinsurance recoveries, were estimated at £351 million, whereas their assets totalled £258 million.

Winding up petitions in respect of those companies stood adjourned pending negotiation of a scheme of arrangement under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985.

They belonged to the same group, accepted risks through the same underwriting agency, and specialised in casualty, professional indemnity, property insurance and reinsurance in the United States of America.

Such insurance was known as "long tail" business because although the liability of the insurer depended upon a specified event having taken place during the currency of the policy, the existence and extent of the liability might not be ascertained until long after the policy had expired. An example would be a claim by a workman for asbestosis due to his employment during the currency of the policy.

The feasibility of the proposed scheme of arrangement depended upon the participation of the Policyholders Protection Board, which was created under the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 to administer a fund for indemnifying, in whole or in part, policyholders who had been prejudiced by the insolvency of United Kingdom insurance companies.

The board had a discretion to assist a company in "financial difficulties", which included applications for a scheme of arrangement.

The board would obviously wish to exercise that power if the alternative of liquidation appeared likely to be more expensive. Section 16(8) of the Act prohibited the giving of assistance if it would cost more than the statutory obligations on a liquidation, and therefore, so as to decide, the board needed to know what those obligations would be.

His Lordship examined the history of how such insurance claims had been valued in the past. That showed that Parliament, in its interventions, had from the start always been concerned to strike a balance between precise justice to each claimant and the expense and delay which that might involve.

A distinction was drawn between "the value of a policy", that is, the value of the unexpired portion of a current policy, and "the value of . . . a liability under such a policy", that is, of the claims for indemnity arising out of events which occurred before the winding-up order, whether in respect of current or expired policies.

Rule 6 of the 1985 Rules provided: "Except in relation to amounts which have fallen due for payment before the date of the winding-up order the holder of a general business policy shall be admitted as a creditor in relation to his policy without proof for an amount equal to the value of the policy, and for this purpose the value of a policy shall be determined in accordance with Schedule 1."

By the Insurance Companies Act 1982 "a policy" was defined as including "any policy under which there is for the time being an existing liability already accrued or under which a liability may accrue".

Under rule 6 therefore the "value of a policy" embraced both the value of unexpired cover and liabilities accrued or contingent under a policy whether current or expired.

Paragraph 1 of the Schedule dealt with periodic payments which fell due after the date of the winding-up order, and paragraph 2 dealt with policies providing for repayment of premium on early termination, or where the policy was expressed to run from one fixed date to another, or where the policy was terminable by any party from a fixed date.

His Lordship concluded that the effect of rule 6 and the Schedule, read against the background of earlier law, seemed clear: amounts which had fallen due for payment did not require to be valued, and did not come within the Schedule at all. The policy holder submitted his proof under the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925).

Paragraph 1 of the Schedule dealt with liabilities to make periodic payments after the winding up, and introduced a little more flexibility than before, while paragraph 2(a) dealt with liabilities in respect of unexpired periods of current policies, and introduced a new refinement in the case of terminable policies, and 2(b) dealt with all other forms of liability under policies current or expired which had not yet fallen due for payment.

That residuary clause enabled the Schedule to be exhaustive but without making any real change because paragraph 2(b) required the same "just estimate" of value as the general law, including, presumably, the principle of *In re Northern Counties of England Fire Insurance Co, Macfarlane's Claim* ((1880) 17 Ch D 337).

His Lordship rejected a submission of Mr Heslop, who argued that the new rules had made a radical change in the law, saying that the effect of the submission would have eliminated the great bulk of the scheme companies' liabilities, most of which were contingent liabilities under occurrence or claims made policies, and the result would have been that companies which had gone into insolvent liquidation would emerge substantially solvent, with a healthy surplus for their shareholders, while the policy holders would be left entirely without the cover for which they contracted.

Accordingly, question 1 of the summons, which asked whether rule 6 and the Schedule provided a "complete and exhaustive code" for valuation of admissible claims, would be answered "Yes", save in relation to amounts which had fallen due for payment.

Question 2 asked whether various claims listed in a schedule to the summons would come under paragraph 2 of Schedule 1, and if so whether under subparagraphs (a) or (b).

The list included claims which might be pending under occurrence, claims made, or reinsurance policies. All of those would, if current, give rise to claims for loss of cover in respect of future occurrences or claims made, which had to be made under paragraph 2(a), and, whether current or expired, might give rise to claims in respect of past occurrences or claims made, which had to be valued under 2(b).

There was no suggestion that contracts of reinsurance were in that respect different from primary insurance contracts.

Solicitors: Freshfields; Herbert Smith; Freshfields; Herbert Smith.

Justices cannot order contact by cards with child in care

S v Newham London Borough Council and Another

Justices had no power to order contact by correspondence on dismissing an application under section 12 of the Child Care Act 1980 by a parent for access to a child in the care of a local authority.

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, so stated on May 13 when, in the absence of a cross-appeal by the local authority, he allowed a mother's appeal from a decision of Newham Juvenile Court on September 27, 1990 refusing physical access to her daughter.

THE PRESIDENT said that the girl, now aged eight, had been with foster parents since September 1987 and a care order had been granted to the local authority in June 1988.

The mother had been allowed supervised access which had been terminated formally on February 3, 1989.

All the parties accepted that adoption was in the best interests of the child and that the present foster parents were suitable prospective adoptive parents.

The justices had considered the matter carefully and, in his Lordship's opinion, were right to refuse access to the mother. However, they had adopted an ambivalent approach in that they had gone on to order contact by correspondence limited to birthday and Christmas cards. That form of contact was a matter for the local authority.

It was to be observed that justices would have wider powers under the Children Act 1989 when that Act came into force in October 1991.

In the absence of a cross-appeal by the local authority the court had no alternative but to allow the appeal and remit the case to the justices.

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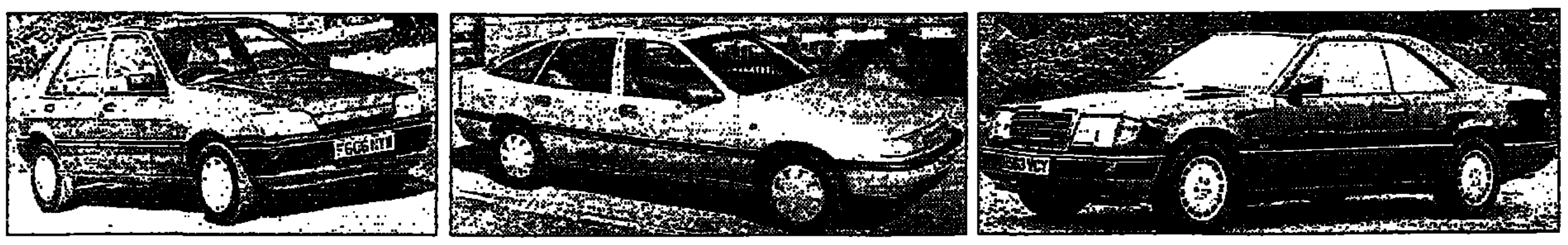


Cars that more than pay their way: the company Fiesta (left) is estimated to be worth £3,706 to the employee, the Cavalier (centre) £4,721 and the Mercedes £10,514

Driving the best of bargains

Is the company car still a perk worth having? **Kevin Eason** finds out whether the benefit has survived the last Budget

Accountants are working hard to determine what Britain's 3.5 million company car motorists will be driving next year. The question the accountants are trying to solve, however, does not concern which model or colour to offer, but whether those drivers should have a car at all.

The company car is as ingrained in the culture of the British wage package as sick pay and pensions, or it was until the Chancellor decided it was a suitable case for some heavy tax increases.

Norman Lamont's 20 per cent increase on scale charges for the benefit that a company car gives an employee and the addition of national insurance contributions imposed on employers in the Budget were the last straw for many businesses. Companies will be paying an extra £610 million annually in national insurance to provide cars for their employees.

Could Mr Lamont be the Chancellor who will drive the company car out of existence? Certainly, many companies want to know whether they could do without a car fleet and how much it would cost to "buy out" the employees by offering extra salary instead.

Stoy Benefit Consulting says company cars are "rapidly reaching the point where they are no longer tax-efficient". Stoy admits that cases vary, but it has discovered that 51 per cent of the cases it profiled made the fleet car a poor tax deal and says that figure will rise to two-thirds if another 20 per cent is added to scale charges in the next Budget.

However, Cowie Interleasing, which operates 53,000 fleet cars, warns that average payments to a £15,000-a-year employee to buy out the company car might have to be almost £5,000 annually, and an executive could want £10,000 a year more to be persuaded to give up the company Mercedes.

Neil Pykett, the managing director, says the latest Budget increases may have hurt employees, but that they should think carefully before accepting a lump sum from the company in exchange for the car. Mr Pykett points out that the extra VAT in the Budget loaded another £200 on to the price of a basic Ford Fiesta. Maintenance and repair costs also increased.

"The danger is that the company car driver has forgotten that it is a cold world out there for people who run their own cars," Mr Pykett says.

A typical Ford Fiesta company driver would need £3,700 a year to run the car, using it on company business as well as private motoring, plus another £1,000 for the tax and national insurance loss on the extra salary being paid, according to Cowie's figures. That compares with a present tax liability of only about £632. A £15,000-a-year Vauxhall Cavalier 1.8 driver needs £6,000 for running costs and extra salary compared with an £812.50 tax charge.

The employee case for the company car seems to be irrefutable, *if only for the peace of mind* of knowing that, whatever goes wrong, somebody else pays.

However, there is the prospect of some companies trying to buy out their employees' company cars on the cheap, bringing significant dangers if they succeed. Workers told to buy their own car will move instead to smaller, cheaper cars. Many will buy second-hand, others will eschew the "extras", such as sunroof, good radio and air-conditioning, which have become regarded as essentials in the modern company car.

In the extreme case, what happens if a sales director overnight switches from a company-owned Jaguar to his own second-hand Ford Escort, pocketing the extra cash his company paid him to finance his own car?

The company suffers because it is paying heavily for an employee with a car that may not convey the image the company wants when he turns up in a customer's car park. He may not even get there with a car that is either too old or infrequently serviced.

The news would be bad for British industry too. British manufacturers depend on company car sales. Nine out of ten Jaguars, for example, are sold to company fleets and half of all Vauxhalls.

If companies stop buying Jaguars, Vauxhalls and others, the economy of the British motor *industry could be wrecked in a* matter of months, and Mr Lamont really will have driven the company car out of existence.

TYPICAL SALARY INCREASES REQUIRED TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS OF A COMPANY CAR

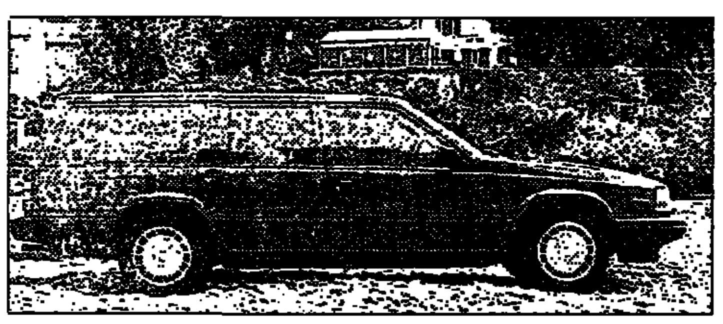
	Ford Fiesta 1.4LX CFI	Cavalier 1.8GL	Mazda 626 2.2GLX	Rover 820 SLi 16v	Mercedes 300E
Retail Price	£10,002	£12,989	£17,704	£19,877	£31,162
Tax Band	up to 1400cc	up to 2000cc	over 2000cc	value £19-29K	over £29K
Insurance	£273	£326	£485	£700	£950
Loan interest	£960	£1,238	£1,700	£1,908	£2,992
Lost int on deposit	£290	£374	£513	£577	£903
Depreciation	£1,320	£1,908	£3,312	£3,468	£4,212
Maintenance	£165	£165	£250	£250	£520
RAC membership	£59	£59	£59	£59	£59
Road fund tax	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100
Fuel cost	£539	£551	£691	£633	£778
Total annual running cost	£3,706	£4,721	£7,110	£7,695	£10,514

Plus the appropriate sum to cover increased income tax and national insurance liabilities (dependent on individual circumstances and tax bands). The table is based on three-year ownership of a vehicle with an annual mileage of 10,000.

Source: Cowie Interleasing

Volvo's tax beater woos company car drivers

ROADTEST



Special price: the worthy but dull £19,245 940SE Turbo estate

FOR the sake of £5, drivers of some of Volvo's new range could make sizeable tax savings on their company cars *(Kevin Eason writes)*.

Volvo, spotting a sales opportunity, has come up with a series of 940 models specifically aimed at company drivers but priced a fraction below the government's upper scale charge tax band, which applies to cars priced at more than £19,250.

At £19,245, the 940SE Turbo estate is as roomy as you might expect from a car almost 16ft long and 5ft wide and with 39 cu ft of carrying space. This increases to 74 cu ft with the rear seats folded.

I fear that drivers may find the 2-litre, turbo-charged engine rough-edged, compared with some competitors. I found it noisy.

The passenger cabin may be roomy, but it looks like a shrine to the virtues of plastic. Not what the executive motorist, wooed by models with polished wood and leather, might expect, even for a tax-beating price.

Fans of Volvos will not be worried by such criticisms, and the estate will still appeal to those for whom the stolid, dumpy looks signify reliability and safety. With 85 per cent of Volvo cars registered in Britain in the last 15 years thought to be still on the road, those qualities are unarguable.

Volvo offers a catalytic converter as standard, along with its Lambda Sond system, which regulates fuel injection so that a claimed 95 per cent of noxious gases are removed from the exhaust.

Price: £19,245.
Engine: four-cylinder, 2-litre, 155hp, five-speed transmission.
Performance: top speed 126mph, 0-62mph 9.6 seconds, urban fuel consumption 21.9mpg, unleaded.

ROADWISE

More cats in the cars

SALES of new cars with catalytic converters reached 65,509 in the first quarter of the year, 15.6 per cent of the total, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. That compares with 5.7 per cent of all sales in 1990 and 11.5 per cent in the final quarter of last year.

Racing for a Merc

THE top prize at a summer running event will be a Mercedes-Benz. Sebastian Coe will be among male runners who will give a group of female athletes a 25-second start over a mile course through the centre of Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, on August 26. First home gets a £16,000 Mercedes 190E 1.8-litre.

Down to earth

RAF Red Arrows pilots brought their skills back to earth recently to sit the advanced driving test under the watchful eyes of examiners from the Institute of Advanced Motorists. All the pilots, driving Rover 200 series cars around their home base of RAF Scampton, Lincolnshire, passed. The cost of the institute's two-hour advanced test goes up from £20 to £23 on June 3.

The safer finals

ONLY 24 of more than 200 contestants are through to the finals of the RAC's national competition for disabled drivers. The competition was arranged with the police driver training schools in London and Lancashire, the Institute of Advanced Motorists and the Jim Russell Racing Drivers' School, to promote safer driving. The final is in August at the Castle Donington race track. The winner gets a £2,500 holiday and a visit to a Formula 3000 race at the Leicestershire circuit.

Vintage visions

SHEFFIELD Simplex, Gregoire, Stutz, Hudson, Tatra and Railton conjure up visions of a glorious motoring past, which will be repeated briefly in the Esso Bristol to Bournemouth Vintage Vehicle Run on June 9. They will be among the marques on display, while the two oldest taking part will be an Oldsmobile and a De Dion Bouton, both from 1902.

Price fighting

PRICING has become keen as the sales competition hots up. Vauxhall has launched a budget version of its Nova series. This car, the Spin, costs £5,999, which is £900 less than the present base model. Skoda has unveiled the Favorit Forum Plus, an upgraded version of its base car, at £5,297, and Kia, the newcomer from Korea, says it will have three models priced under £7,000 on British launch day, June 29.

The long test drive

ALLOWING a 72-year-old retired teacher the chance of a test drive seemed only reasonable to the salesman at a garage at Hiawatha, Kansas, reports *Automotive News*, the American motor industry magazine. The old man took the Mercury Cougar to show his girlfriend at an old people's home and was not seen again for 13 months. The car appeared back on the forecourt with both sets of keys, 25,000 extra miles on the clock and a slight rust spot repaired.

Moscow via M25

M25
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TRAFFIC queues on the M25 last year added up to nearly 1,500 miles, the distance between London and Moscow, the AA Roadwatch unit reports. The longest jam was 34 miles when a lorry turned over near junction 28 last May. The runner-up was a piffling 19 miles in June. There were 806 "incidents", a mixture of breakdowns, accidents, jams and roadworks, substantially more than the 574 of 1989.

Great for Golf

VOLKSWAGEN'S Golf model sold more than 900,000 worldwide in 1990, its best sales year. The Golf, now in its seventeenth year of production, seems about to become another perennial motoring favourite, like the Beetle it succeeded. More than ten million have been made at Wolfsburg and another two million elsewhere, including South America.

Mitsubishis up

MITSUBISHI has raised prices by 3 per cent on its Colt 3-door hatchbacks, Lancer saloon and liftbacks, and Galant saloons and coupés.

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Banker warns against diving in at deep end of franchise market

By RODNEY HOBSON

ADVICE on setting up and running franchises has been prompted by the National Franchise Exhibition held this month.

Alan Folkard, southern franchise manager for Barclays Bank, commented after the exhibition at Olympia, London: "The temptation to jump into the deep end of the franchise market can be all too attractive – especially those with a lump sum redundancy pay-off."

Mr Folkard's tips are:

☐ Examine your circumstances to consider what you are giving up in terms of employment, income and lifestyle.

☐ Choose a franchise that suits you. Have you already got a background in the trade? Do you think you will enjoy working in that area of business?

☐ Check your chosen franchise market thoroughly before committing yourself. Know the size of your market and your key competitors.

☐ Talk to your bank's local franchise unit or business centre for advice on financial services available including stock financing, forecasts, tax and insurance.

☐ Ask the franchisor searching questions and ask for a reference. A good franchisor will welcome a businesslike approach.

☐ Contact a lawyer with commercial experience.

The UK franchise market is estimated to be growing by 10 per cent a year and is seen by an increasing number of people as the ideal way to start up business. About 10 per cent fold within five years. Mr Folkard says: "Don't just choose a franchise because it seems to promise the best income or capital gain."

Award winner

A 1991 Helping Hand award for assisting small business has been won by Ken Pyne for his Mr Friday cartoons in *The Times*. The awards are organised by the National Federation of Self-Employed and Small Businesses and sponsored by Tollit and Harvey, printer and stationer.

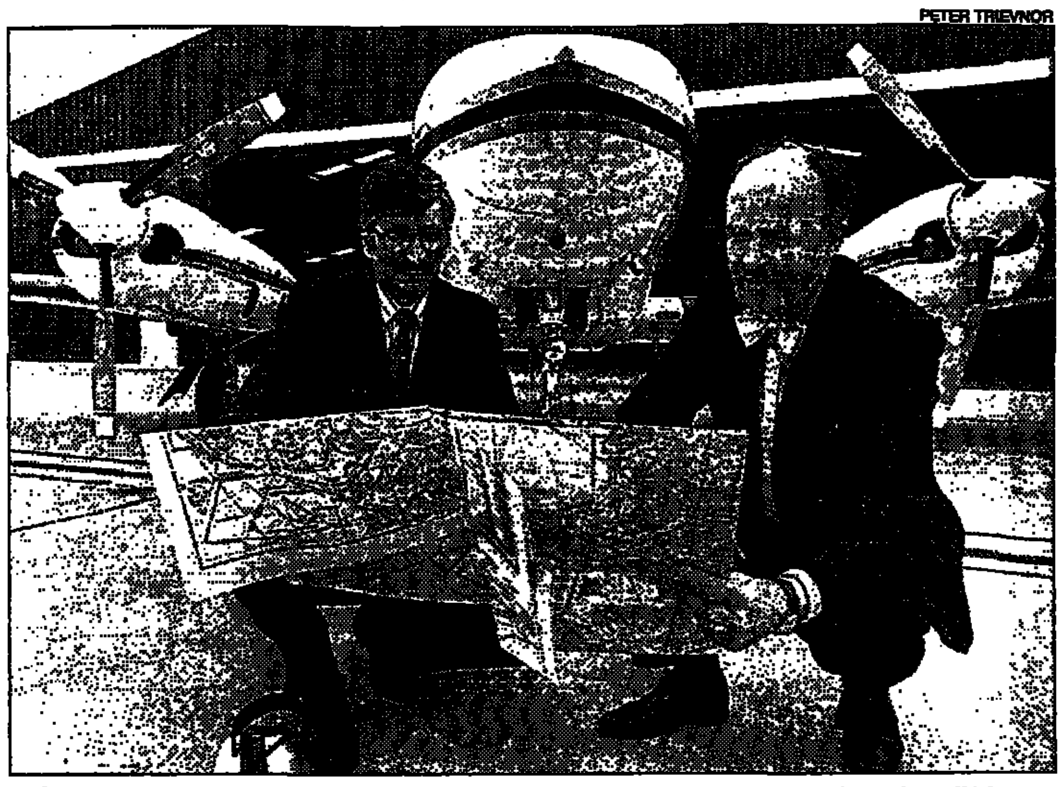
MR FRIDAY

'First the good news — the Inland Revenue has admitted the investigation of you was completely unfounded . . .'

Law firm pens a Canterbury tale

By ROGER PEARSON

PETER TREVNOR



Sky's the limit: a commercial approach to law is paying off for John Burrett (left) and John Bishop

A HARD commercial approach to the traditionally stuffy, quill pen image of the law is paying big dividends for pioneering barristers in Canterbury. Three years ago they left London to open the Southeast's first barristers' chambers out of town.

John Bishop and John Burrett, fellow barristers, set up Canterbury Chambers, the management company to run the project and raise the necessary finance.

Both men live in east Kent and after years of commuting to London decided there had to be an equally profitable life style closer to home. The pair opened the chambers in 1988, with the two men sharing a six-room suite over a bank in the city centre with three other former London barristers.

Their combined income in that first year was around £50,000. Three years on, the chambers has just moved to new quarters with the number of members increased to 13 and total income for the current financial year expected to top £500,000. The target over the next three years is to increase the number of members in the set to between 15 and 20 and become self supporting, with all debts cleared.

The initial project, launched before the Bar, the barristers' governing body, adopted a policy of encouraging devolution out of London, met with opposition.

"Kent had been viewed as the 'bread basket' of several London sets of chambers and naturally we posed a threat," Mr Burrett said.

Canterbury Chambers offers a doorstep service to 16 firms of solicitors in Canterbury and another 40 firms within 30 minutes driving time of the city at towns like Ashford, Faversham, Folkestone, Dover, Ramsgate and Margate. It cuts up to five hours travelling time from attending chambers in London.

Mr Burrett recently qualified as a pilot and has bought an aircraft, which the chambers uses to get barristers to distant destinations. Raising the initial £40,000 to establish the chambers through a bank loan posed problems. As Bar rules forbid partnerships, Mr Burrett and Mr Bishop had to form a limited management company to raise the cash and run the new chambers. Around £15,000 went on law books, £12,000 on computers, phones, desks and ancillary equipment and the rest on lease and rental needs such as accommodation.

However, it was a cheap venture compared with the cost of such a project in London. Similar office space in the capital would cost around £35 a square foot compared with the £5 it costs in Canterbury. The approach at Canterbury Chambers is highly commercial and aggressive, due to the scrapping of restrictions on publicity and a change of Bar rules enabling many professionals now to approach barristers directly, rather than through solicitors.

Mr Burrett said: "Everybody at Canterbury is there to make a living. The chambers have been set up from the start as a business run on strict commercial lines. It's the only way to make such a venture succeed."

BRIEFINGS

HOW far local authorities can help growing businesses is still too often under-rated by those in business, according to a Local Government Management Board study.

The study, *Getting Closer to Business*, found that although many councils had made far-reaching changes towards fostering better relations with business, there remained prejudices and ignorance about the role and nature of local authorities.

Enquiries: Mark Sheldrake, Local Government Management Board, Arndale House, Arndale Centre, Luton, Beds LU1 2TS.

☐ A quarterly survey of business property in Greater Manchester, St Helens and Macclesfield will be conducted by Guest Shaw, an independent property consultancy. Guest Shaw's first analysis of business expectations and likely property requirements, made in the first quarter, showed that only a third of businesses expected growth in the second quarter but two-thirds were optimistic, over the next 12 months. Details: Robert Shaw or Jean Godbert on 061-832 2888.

☐ South London Business Initiative is launching a series of workshops to help small businesses improve their performance. The first workshop, on June 27, will deal with media relations. Details on 081-977 9577.

☐ The Polytechnic of East London is offering future fashion entrepreneurs a post-graduate diploma course to develop organisation and marketing skills. The course will begin in September and last 26 weeks. Further information: Valerie Goodworth, 081-590 7722.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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How the Iron Lady sparked a revival

TEES SIDE
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

It was four years ago that Margaret Thatcher launched her campaign to revive the inner cities with a walk (left) beside the River Tees. Her own fortunes may have declined, but the region's regeneration has continued. **Peter Davenport reports**

When Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, arrives today to view the progress of the Teesside Development Corporation he will be greeted by a sight vastly different from that which confronted Margaret Thatcher when she took her "walk in the wilderness" to launch the government's campaign to regenerate the inner cities.

Four years ago, Mrs Thatcher walked through an expanse of weeds and industrial dereliction on the site of a former engineering plant on the banks of the River Tees. The development corporation, created a few months earlier and consisting, on that day, of its chief executive and two staff members, was just beginning to appreciate the enormous task it faced in reviving 12,000 acres of blighted land in one of Britain's most socially and industrially depressed areas.

The corporation faced perhaps the most arduous task of any of the development corporations set up by the government to tackle the problems of decay and disadvantage in towns and cities.

Today, Mr Heseltine, who played no small part in Mrs Thatcher's downfall, will see the impressive progress being made towards the goals she outlined. He will turn his hand to a variety of ceremonies marking important stages of development.

Ambitious works are under way across the development corporation's 19 square miles. Cranes dominate a landscape filled with bulldozers, earthmoving equipment and the bustle of the site.

Teesdale, the venue for Mrs Thatcher's "wilderness walk", is now the largest of the corporation's flagship schemes, a £500 million, mixed-use development that is three times larger than Canary Wharf in London Docklands and is expected to create 8,000 jobs. A £160 million marina is well under way in Hartlepool and leading retailers are moving into the £80 million Teesside Park retail park on the former Stockton racecourse.

The corporation has spent £160 million generating almost half a billion pounds of private-sector investment. When its seven-year lifespan is up, the corporation will have invested £300 million of government funds and attracted more than £1 billion.

More than 100 companies have moved in or expanded in the area, creating 3,800 jobs and a further 5,000 are in the pipeline. Thousands more jobs are expected to be provided by projects that are not yet complete.

Only five years ago, unemployment in Cleveland, the county that has Teesside at its heart, stood at a disastrous 22 per cent; today, the level is down to 14.5 per cent. This is still almost twice the national figure, however.

Although the area is coping with the national recession better than previously, the jobless rate is beginning to edge upwards again, and male unemployment remains about 20 per cent and higher in some depressed pockets.

There have been changes in the way Teesside is viewed by industry and investors throughout Britain, however, and the area has a renewed confidence matched by its improving physical environment. The corporation says all its schemes have attracted private-sector investment.

Mr Heseltine will hear about other important projects aimed at continuing that progress. These include a £50 million Tees barrage scheme to create a clean, tide-free setting for watersports and recreation. The contract is expected to be awarded to a large national company soon.

Like other development corporations, the Teesside authority has been accused of creating "elitist" developments, steamrollering elected local councils and spending vast amounts with insufficient jobs in return.

Duncan Hall, the corporation's chief executive, says the number and scale of developments now "coming out of the ground" are an answer to the criticisms.

The development has been a personal crusade for Mr Hall, who was born in Middlesbrough and returned home from his post as the chief executive in Corby, Northamptonshire, where he had played a central role in the struggle to revive that community after the closure of its steelworks in 1979.

He says part of the answer was to diversify a local economy that depended too heavily on key industries such as chemicals, steel and heavy engineering, all of which had declined.

Although the presence of British Steel and ICI remain important to Teesside, the economic base has been widened to such an extent that it has been able to ride the national recession in a way unthinkable a decade ago.

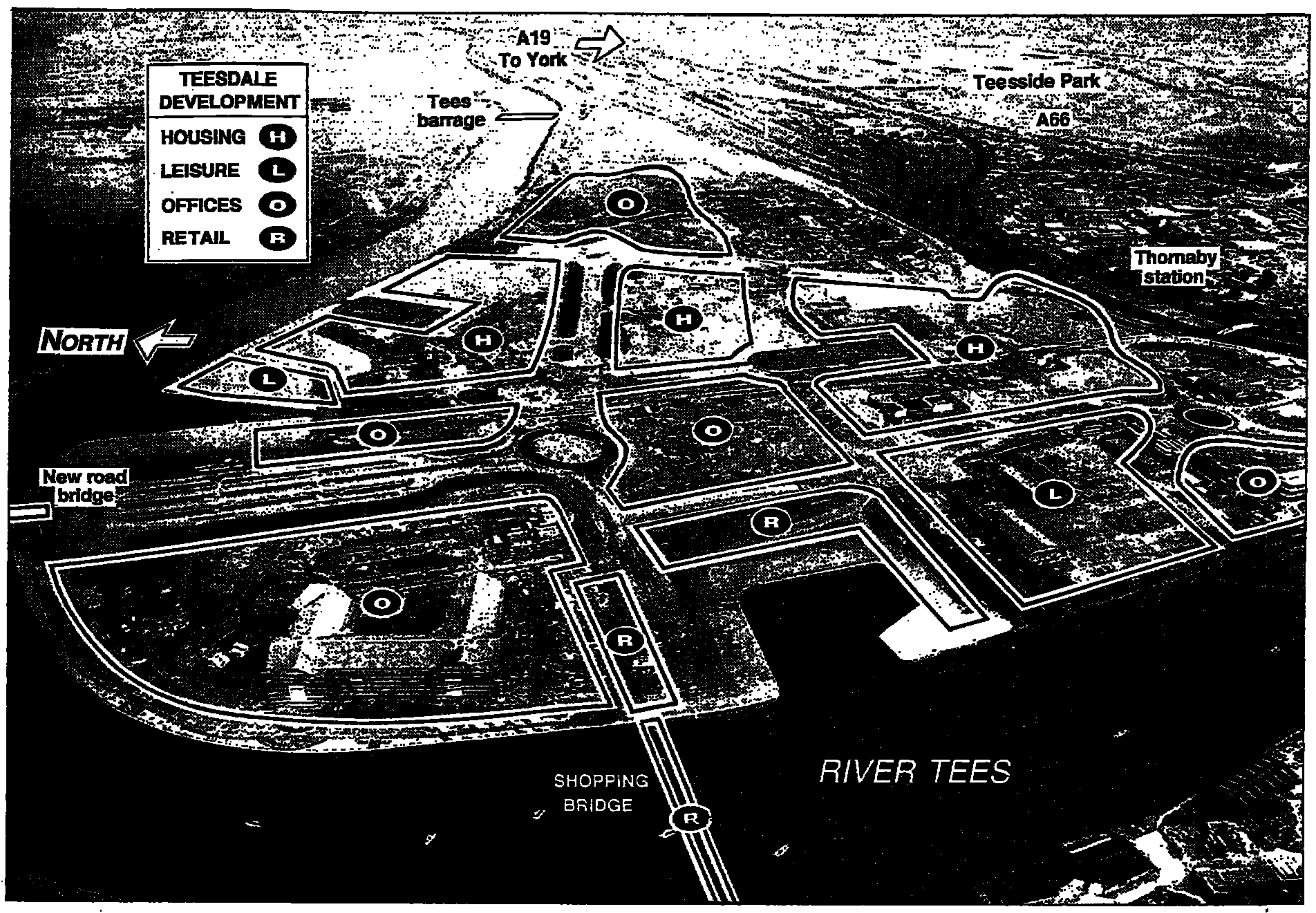
Mr Hall says: "We needed an uplift in the business and investment confidence in the area. Self-confidence had also been affected by a degree of cynicism created by many years in which the great aspirations for Teesside had not been realised. The scale of the problem was enormous," he adds. "In 19 square miles, with less than 1,000 people living there, you had the heart of a large conurbation that was bereft of people and bereft of significant development. Any individual scheme was not going to solve the problems of rejuvenation.

"The essence was to do the whole lot, a totally mixed development, all in one go, ranging from attracting an expansion of the offshore industry to building a retail park, to putting in one of the largest-ever leisure complexes to building a river barrage, from new leisure and amenity facilities to high-quality offices, to providing a range of social and private housing so that people could live, play and work in a quality environment."

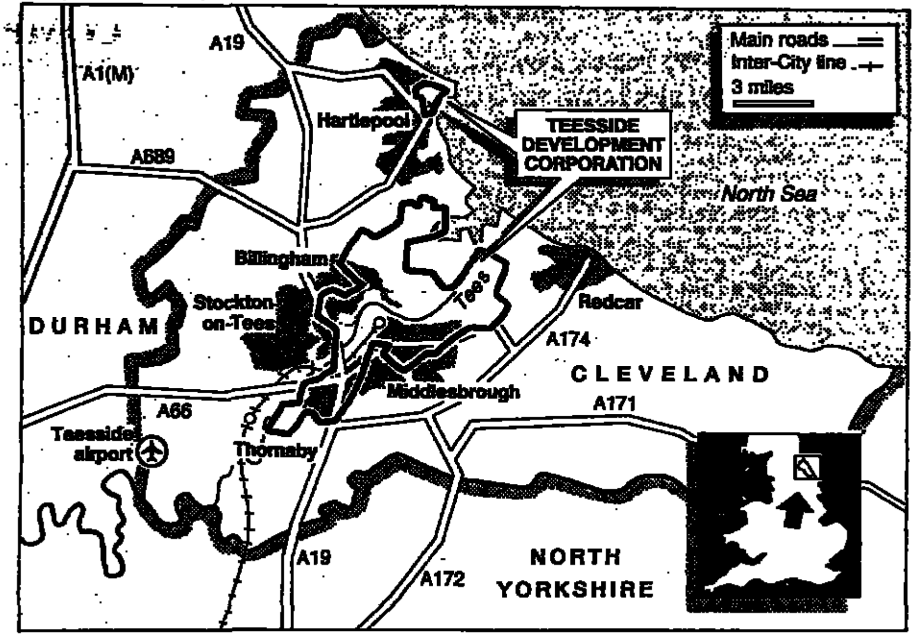
He says the initial commitment to the area by Mrs Thatcher was "fundamental" to its success. "After four years we are more than halfway there," he says. "There is no doubt now that we can achieve the development. There is no doubt we have levered in significant investment and that more will follow."

All the planned developments can be achieved within the corporation's original seven-year lifespan, he says. The government is looking at the future for development corporations and he believes there is a strong case for giving the organisation on Teesside a further period of life.

"Future generations can look forward to the range of opportunities available to them and that is a profound change."



Step ahead: Teesdale, the site of Mrs Thatcher's walk, is now a £500 million project that is three times larger than the Canary Wharf development in the London Docklands



Wilderness comes to life

Out of dereliction arise offices, homes, shops, and riverside parks

Site check: David Colley (right), the engineer, and Duncan Hall of Teesside Development Corporation

From the front seat of David Colley's Land-Rover as it criss-crosses the sprawling Teesdale development site, it is almost impossible to appreciate the scale of the project. Only when Mr Colley, who is the site engineer, steers his vehicle to the top of an enormous mound of earth can the visitor start to appreciate the size of the undertaking *(Peter Davenport writes)*.

Four years ago, when Margaret Thatcher started a campaign to regenerate Britain's inner cities, the 250-acre development site between Stockton and Middlesbrough was derelict industrial land.

Today, it is a £500 million scheme, the biggest of the flagship projects of the Teesside Development Corporation.

Mr Colley, of Crouch, Hogg and Waterman, a consultant engineering company, is working, with his team, from temporary offices in the middle of the building site. The scheme is led by a partnership of the corporation and Murray BS, a joint company owned by Murray International Holdings, of Edinburgh, and the Bank of Scotland.

Acquiring, clearing and preparing the site has cost more than £60 million.

Mr Colley says: "The scale of this project and the fact that it has been the policy of the development corporation not to use its powers of compulsory purchase have made it a difficult task. We have had to work around existing tenants while large areas of the site have been open to the public."

A £50 million barrage on the River Tees will provide clean, tide-free water for sporting and recreational use, tree-lined canals are being created and there will be ten bridges on the site, three river crossings, a viaduct and more than three miles of riverside walkways, making the area an environmental attraction.

A cantilevered shopping bridge will link Teesdale with Stockton high street on the opposite bank of the river, and a £12 million A66 interchange connects the site to the Teesside park leisure-retail development on the former Stockton racecourse.

Teesdale is a mixed-use development, comprising offices, houses and apartments, shops, leisure facilities and social amenities.

Murray BS is completing a £10 million development of 100,000 sq ft of office space at Dunedin House on the Tees, where rents of £12 a square foot are being obtained. Although low by national standards, the figure is the highest ever on Teesside, and is an indication of continuing commercial interest.

Wimpey is building 128 homes, priced from £55,000 to £113,000. There will be sheltered accommodation, and an Alzheimer's residential centre being built by the Alzheimer's Disease Society will provide 25 day places and 36 beds. The development is due to be completed within the next three years.

Leisure and pleasure to lure shoppers

TEESSIDE Park will provide 500,000 sq ft of shopping space and a £25 million indoor leisure centre which, the developers say, will be the largest of its kind in Britain.

The site, the former Stockton racecourse, sandwiched by a junction of the main A19 and A66 roads, covers more than 100 acres. The £80 million park, due for completion in September, has attracted leading retailers. The toy chain Toys 'R' Us and ELS, a furniture retailer, are already open. They will soon be joined by Iceland Frozen Foods, Comet, Morrisons, the supermarket group, Poundstretcher, British Gas, and a W.H. Smith Do It All.

The indoor leisure complex includes a ten-screen multiplex cinema, a tenpin bowling alley, roller skating, a wine bar, restaurants and fast-food outlets. Parking for up to 2,000 cars is being provided.

A new £12 million interchange on the A66 will improve access to the park, and there will also be a road bridge link to the Teesdale development.

Preparatory work on the bridge involved diverting a main sewer and miners had to tunnel 20ft underground to install new piping.

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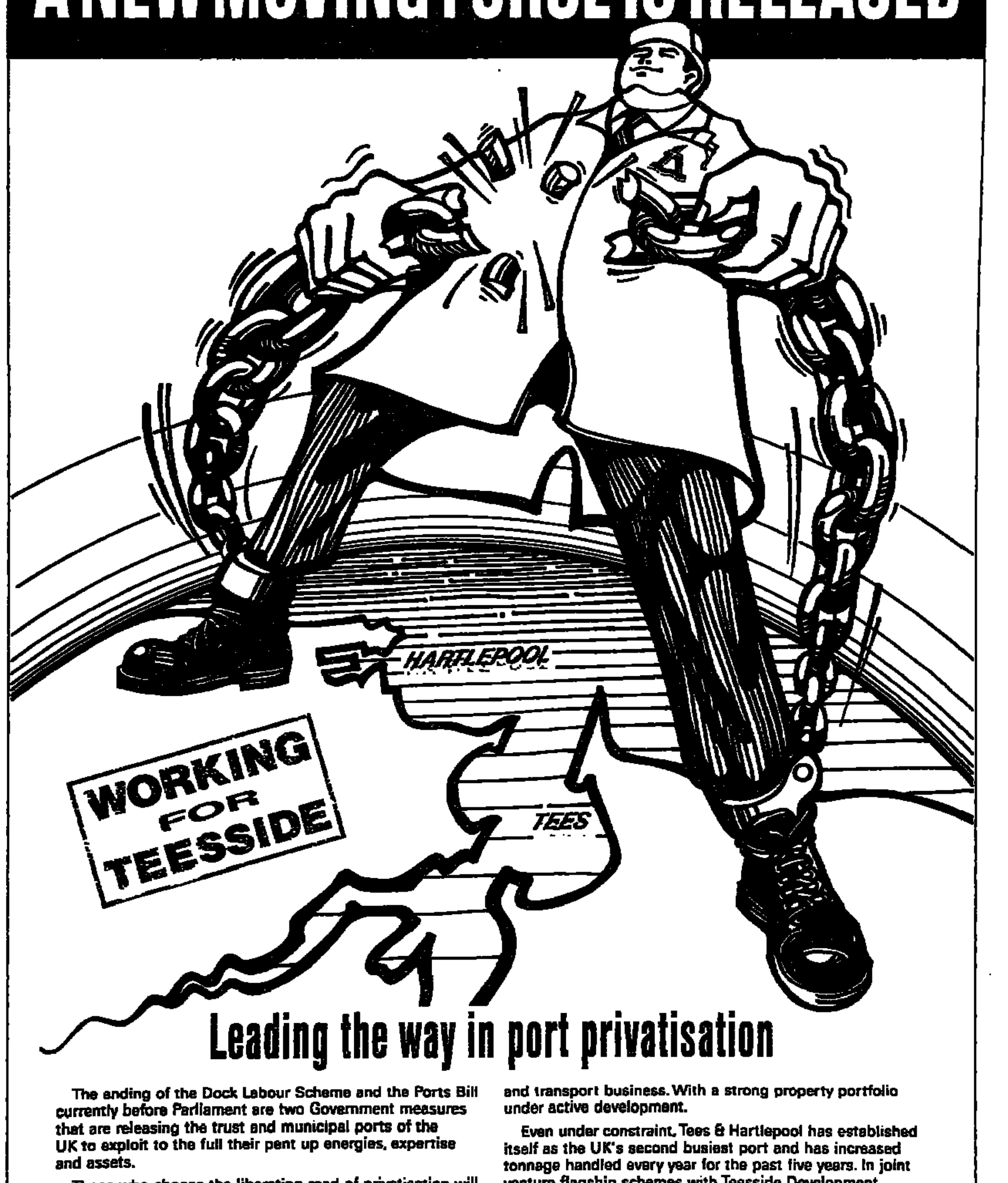

Leading the way in port privatisation

The ending of the Dock Labour Scheme and the Ports Bill currently before Parliament are two Government measures that are releasing the trust and municipal ports of the UK to exploit to the full their pent up energies, expertise and assets.

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Even under constraint, Tees & Hartlepool has established itself as the UK's second busiest port and has increased tonnage handled every year for the past five years. In joint venture flagship schemes with Teesside Development Corporation it is making its own contribution to the regeneration of the North East.

Freed of constraint, it will be poised to build swiftly on its considerable strengths and play a leading role in the transformation of the UK ports industry.

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Discovering the catalyst for new prosperity

In the environment-conscious Nineties, Teesside is wooing new, 'greener' chemical industries, Chris Tighe reports

CARL RUTHERFORD

Heart of ICI: Sandy Anderson, the ICI Teesside operations manager, at the olefines plant. Teesside is the main complex for the chemicals giant

Most first-time visitors to Teesside are astounded at the vista of distillation columns, furnaces and pipework that spreads out before them. While they regard products such as plastic carrier bags, detergents, nylon, cars, antifreeze and cosmetics as part of their everyday life, many are unaware of the scale of ICI's Teesside operations, where raw materials for these goods are made.

In fact, Teesside has ICI's highest concentration of manufacturing assets anywhere in the world, a network of industrial plants worth £4.5 billion, and producing about eight million tonnes of chemicals a year, with a value of more than £2.5 billion.

ICI's presence began in 1917 when the ministry of munitions asked Brunner Mond, one of four companies that merged in 1926 to create Imperial Chemical Industries, to set up a factory to produce nitrogen for explosives.

Brunner Mond suggested Billingham, on the north bank of the Tees, and after the first world war bought the site and developed its synthetic ammonia and nitrates subsidiary.

Since then the Billingham site has become a huge manufacturing centre, making ammonia, general chemicals, fertilisers, acrylics and advanced materials. In the Thirties, Perspex was developed there. Biopol, a degradable plastic created by ICI's Billingham-based Biological Products business, was started just last year.

> *'The production of high-value chemicals offers the best prospect of growth'*

As ICI's Teesside activities expanded, it developed both its North Tees site, near Billingham, where crude oil from North Sea oil fields is refined and "aromatic" raw chemicals are made, and also its huge petrochemical centre at Wilton, on the south side of the Tees.

Today, ICI contributes £400 million a year to the Teesside economy through wages, pensions, rates and local purchasing. It employs 11,500 people.

Although still a huge employer on Teesside, ICI has contracted; before the 1979-81 recession took its toll, it had twice as many employees in the area as today and in the Sixties, 30,000 people were on *its payroll.*

An announcement last July that it was selling off its Billingham-based UK fertiliser business was a serious blow to Teesside. The subsequent intervention of the Mergers and Monopolies Commission in the proposed sale of part of the business to Kemira Oy of Finland means that ammonium nitrate fertiliser is still being made at Billingham, but the closure of other parts of the fertiliser business has cost about 570 jobs.

The cuts have taught Teesside that it cannot rely on a single big employer. Stiff international competition in the chemical and petrochemical sector and the shift towards more capital-intensive production have also sparked a realisation that it is the production of fine, high-value chemicals, rather than bulk tonnages, that offers the best prospect of growth.

Teesside's familiarity with chemicals and petrochemicals is a strong marketing asset, but the area has also woken up in recent years to the industry's environmental costs.

Such concern has produced positive benefits for the area: ICI scientists on Teesside are pioneering environmentally safe products, and after years of debate, an agreement has been reached between industry, planners and environmentalists that will protect unreclaimed areas of Seal Sands and its breeding colony of seals.

ICI is placing great emphasis on improving its environmental performance. On Teesside, more than £80 million was earmarked in 1990 for environmental improvements.

Since the Seventies ICI has reduced the oxygen-reducing waste entering the Tees by 75 per cent; migratory fish are returning to the river's upper reaches for the first time in 50 years.

Despite the problems of reconciling industrial and environmental concerns, Teesside would be foolish to turn its back on a sector in which it has expertise and an existing infrastructure, says Peter Watson, the Teesside Development Corporation's marketing director.

The TDC, which has promoted Teesside as a European chemicals centre, is wooing several *Japanese chemical* companies. "This is one of the few places left in Europe which can accommodate them," Mr Watson says.

Winning new projects takes time because chemical industry investments are large and environmentally sensitive, he says. Last year, the Norwegian company Dynochem set up a £6.3 million plant on a former ICI site in Billingham, creating 25 jobs, and the TDC is optimistic that the ICI's 250 acre process plant park nearby will attract speciality chemicals firms. The German-owned intermediate chemicals producer BASF last year opened a £6 *million research and dev*elopment centre at its Seal Sands base.

By far the most important new chemical industry investment is by the British company MTM, which is building a £100 million European production and technology centre at Teesport on a former refinery site. The investment will create 1,000 jobs.

Even this project is dwarfed by the scale of the million pound gas-fired combined heat and power station proposed by ICI and Enron Power (UK) for land at ICI Wilton. This £600 million plant would be fed by a gas pipeline from new North Sea gas fields to Teesside, and would add about 3 per cent to the UK's generating capacity.

"Belasis Park continues to expand," says George Hunter

George Hunter, Chief Executive of Belasis Hall Technology Park, explains:

"Much has happened since we opened the Park in the spring of 1988 and we now have over forty companies at Belasis, all engaged in clean, high-tech and knowledge based activities. The first stage of development covers fifty acres and provides a wide range of accommodation including small and medium sized offices and individual pavilions as large as 20,000 sq ft. The offices can be rented; pavilions can be leased or purchased.

The new Belasis Business Centre has become very popular, both for its high class accommodation and its elegant restaurant. The restaurant is an important addition to the Park's facilities and is becoming increasingly popular with the local business community.

We have just completed the infrastructure for the second development stage of the Park and landscaped a further sixty-four acres with lakes, embankments, footpaths and extensive planting. This site has been created for companies who wish to build their own property in a prestigious, landscaped setting.

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Worldwide company stays loyal

A chemicals group is expanding at its Teesside home

TED DITCHBURN

Richard Lines: keen to share success with Teesside

ONE of the European chemical industry's most dynamic companies is a Teesside enterprise. MTM has grown in 12 years from a small business with big ambitions to an international chemicals company with more than 1,000 employees in 26 locations, an expected 1991 turnover of £130 million and shares valued at more than £200 million on the London stock market *(Chris Tighe writes).*

MTM, founded by two chemical industry managers, has prospered by producing high-value chemicals for specific customers and acquiring other companies, including the American Hardwicke Chemical Company, bought in December for $112 million (£64 million).

MTM nevertheless remains committed to Teesside. The company is investing £100 million in one of Teesside's biggest recent industrial developments, a 1,000-job European production and technology centre on a 40-acre oil refinery site at Teesport. The first MTM building in the scheme was opened last month by Margaret Thatcher.

"Our company is one of the fastest-growing manufacturing businesses in the UK and we were keen to share some of that success with Teesside," says MTM's chairman and co-founder, Richard Lines.

The company, which last year had £13.6 million pre-tax profits on an £85 million turnover, is admired locally even by those who say the area has been a soft touch for pollutant industry. "Cleveland has got to attract the right kind of chemical industry," says David Walsh, the county council's economic development and transportation committee chairman. "MTM is a model for the future."

Power plant to challenge giants

Teesside is to have a £700m gas-fired station using the latest technology

ONE of the world's largest gas-fired power stations is to come into operation at Wilton by April 1993. The £700 million project being built by Enron Power (UK) will use combined cycle technology, in which energy entering the plant passes through two power generating cycles *(Ronald Faux writes).*

The project will be operated by Teesside Power, a company formed by Enron, Central Power, Northern Electric (Generation), South Western Power and South Wales Generating. Enron owns the largest natural gas pipeline system in the United States.

Gas from the North Sea Everest and Lomond fields, supplied by Amoco and British Gas, will be piped to the plant, which is seen as a challenge to the duopoly of National Power and PowerGen.

ICI, which will be a neighbour to the new plant, will take 15 per cent of its 1,725 megawatt capacity and steam for its Teesside plants, in particular the Wilton nylon factory.

The plant has the advantage of producing both power and heat from one fuel source. The designers say this helps to conserve natural resources while generating energy at a competitive cost.

The plant will be on 23 acres alongside ICI's 2,000 acre site and ranks as a low hazard installation. No fuels will be stored there, the only liquid discharges will be cooling water and hardly any solid waste will result. Power not used locally will go into the national grid. The plant will make possible a large natural gas pipeline landing in Teesside to be built by Amoco (UK), the Gas Council and Amerada Hess. Only 20 per cent of the new gas supply will go to the power plant, releasing large amounts of competitively priced gas for Teesside's expanding industries.

Enron says environmental advantages are as important as economic benefits when electricity is produced by gas-fired combined cycle technology. The company says: "Natural gas is the cleanest-burning fossil fuel. It produces virtually no sulphur dioxide or ash and far smaller quantities of nitrogen oxides and carbon dioxide per kilowatt hour than any of the competing technologies."

The benefits of a big brother

Small firms draw strength from their proximity to the ICI development, and the golf club's not bad either

Creating 5,000 jobs to broaden Teesside's potentially vulnerable economic base by the year 2000 is the challenge facing the Belasis Hall Technology Park at Billingham *(Chris Tighe writes).*

ICI, co-founder with English Estates of the Belasis development, employs thousands of people at its Teesside sites in huge industrial plants, a dramatic contrast to the park's red-brick, low-rise pavilions.

The scale of employment is in sharp contrast, too; the biggest company at the park has only 50 employees, and *many of its neighbours have* fewer than a dozen.

ICI and English Estates hope, however, that this plethora of small firms will help Teesside lessen its dependence on heavy industry.

But the aim of the 167-acre park is not to turn its back on the area's traditional strengths; in fact, one of Belasis Hall's main selling points is the access it offers to ICI's resources on Teesside, the company's largest concentration of manufacturing assets in the world.

The mood of the park's *managers, three years after the* first tenants moved in, is optimistic. The development of the 58-acre first stage has been two years quicker than expected, and the park is now home to 46 companies.

"Changing the industrial base is the main thing, by moving towards the high technology-centred industries which are less affected by perturbations in the economy," says George Hunter, an ICI manager and the park's chief executive.

The recession has meant fewer enquiries about locating *there, but since the start of the* year four companies have more than doubled their space to expand their businesses. And in the three years since companies began setting up there, only two have failed.

English Estates, like ICI an important force in the north-east economy for more than 50 years, has built 15 pavilions totalling 137,000 sq ft at the park.

There is private sector development, too: Foster Church is building a 100,000 sq ft business centre for 100 companies and a restaurant, shops and conference facilities.

Eighty per cent of the site is given over to landscaping, one of the highest ratios of any UK science park. And all the larger units have been developed with adjacent vacant plots of *land*, earmarked for possible expansion.

Belasis Hall is keen to encourage its companies to capitalise on their proximity to ICI; there is "plenty of scope for synergy", says Mr Hunter. Some tenants are tapping into ICI's sizeable Research and Development operations on Teesside. Many of the small companies setting up at Belasis Hall have welcomed the free access it offers to ICI's golf and social clubs.

Development starts later this year on the second, 60-acre stage of the science park, comprising a hotel, conference centre and lake. But Billingham's "Belasis Triangle" includes another key area – the ICI Process Plant Park, a fully serviced 250 acre site no longer needed by ICI.

The site offers speciality chemicals companies the chance to build their own plants with minimal infrastructure overheads.

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Port sees smooth sailing ahead

The Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority argues that privatisation is the key to a profitable future but not everybody agrees. Ronald Faux reports

As a channel for European trade the Tees expects to gain in importance in the free market of 1992. The Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority has reason to feel satisfied with progress since the shackles of the dock labour scheme were removed. According to John Hackney, the chief executive, only the port of London handles a bigger tonnage, and few ports are more profitable.

The authority is eager to enjoy the freedom of becoming privatised, and it was a bitter disappointment when, last year, the private bill to reconstitute the authority as a company with full commercial powers failed at the House of Lords select committee stage, despite having completed its passage through the Commons.

He says: "The 1966 act under which we operate is limiting, allowing us to invest only in the Tees and Hartlepool," Mr Hackney says. "We have spent £30 million on improving facilities and installing some of the most advanced handling equipment in Europe. That work is basically completed yet we still have £20 million available. It is difficult to find projects to spend it on. We could equip the port with gold-plated cranes but we could not buy a fish and chip shop outside the Tees. Privatisation is very necessary."

With more freedom, this embarrassment of riches could allow the authority to spread its investment in other ports, or in such areas as distribution services or property. But privatisation is opposed by trades unions, local authorities and a strong body of local people on the grounds that profits made locally should be invested locally.

The authority now pins its hopes on separate legislation under which privatisation of trust ports with a turnover of more than £5 million would be allowed. This, it is claimed, would allow the Tees to compete effectively with the Channel tunnel and with other container ports closer to European markets.

Mr Hackney says that although the dock labour scheme has gone, reducing the workforce from more than 1,000 to about 650, competition for business means that rates within the docks are tight and it is the customers who have benefited most.

The £30 million investment over the past two years has doubled the roll-on roll-off and lift-on lift-off capacity in preparation for 1992.

The port is fortunate to have some large and virtually captive customers to satisfy: British Steel, ICI and Phillips Norsea have private terminals on the river and provide most of the tonnage.

Last year, 40 million tons were handled, resulting in an operating profit of about £12 million. Recent industry appearing in the region, in particular the Nissan car plant at Washington, has added to the flood of exports. More than 100,000 vehicles a year pass through the dock from the Nissan car compound on the adjoining Teesport estate and the expectation is that exports could grow to 250,000 a year.

John Hackney: good progress

As the Nissan cars depart from the Tees, the docks in Hartlepool handle an equal number of Citroën, Peugeot, Ford and General Motor models imported for the British market. Steel, chemicals, scrap, coal, and timber products form the bulk cargoes, but the jewel in the Teesport crown is acknowledged to be the container terminal extension opened earlier this year, providing capacity for 50,000 more containers a year.

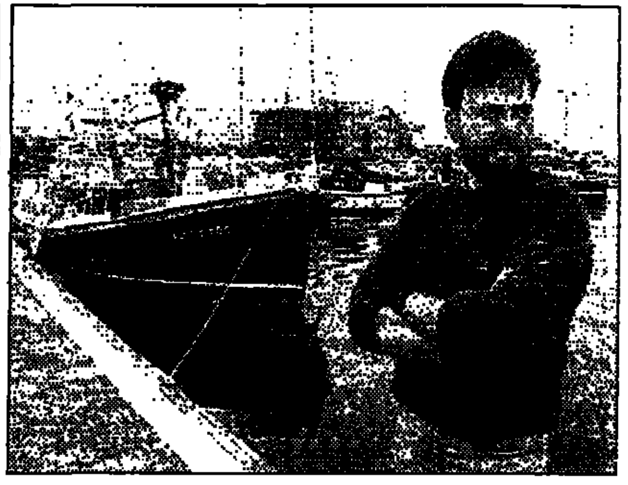
The Tees Offshore Base is operated by the authority from a joint initiative with the Teesside Development Corporation. The project, dominated by the most powerful heavy lift crane on the river, is a development and co-ordination centre for the exploration and management of hydrospace, the area of the earth's surface covered by oceans.

The project is long-term, but Mr Hackney acknowledges that the more immediate future of the port is linked inevitably to the health of the three main customers.

He says: "If they are strong over the next ten years or so, we will be strong, but it remains important to broaden our business base so if there are any unexpected casualties the blow will be less damaging."

The port's experience of industrial giants left the authority slightly wary. Once there were four giants on Teesside, reduced to three when Shell departed — with one day's notice.

CARL RUTHERFORD


Well placed: Pat Keating, the manager of the marina

Marina offers the luxury of revival

Hartlepool hopes to reverse decline by rejuvenating its redundant docks

The announcement, two years ago, that a £160 million marina was to be developed in Hartlepool, backed by the largest urban regeneration grant then awarded by the government, produced a predictable, if cynical, response.

Many people asked why money should be used to create an elaborate marina in a town that was long past its heyday. Such comments missed the point *(Peter Davenport writes)*.

The 450-berth marina, one of the main projects of the Teesside Development Corporation, was more than a luxury, it was a symbol of the regeneration of the town.

The marina is a pet project for Ron Norman, the chairman of the corporation. He has lived in the area for many years since moving from the southeast, and was behind two earlier attempts to build a marina.

Mr Norman says the marina development goes against the national property recession. He believes the marina, when complete, will make Hartlepool one of the most attractive towns on the northeast coast and help to bring investment to counter two decades of decline. Two of the firms involved in the scheme have fallen victim to a slump in the construction industry, but work has continued. Hartlepool council supports the project.

As part of the scheme, the corporation is building a new £13 million deep-water cargo quay for the Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority. The quay will handle vessels of up to 30,000 tons and replaces an ageing dock, which has become part of the marina development.

Writing in the strategic plan document, Brian Dinsdale, the council's chief executive, says: "A sense of pride in Hartlepool, its heritage and its future represent a fundamental ingredient towards a successful economy."

The new marina is expected to become part of the everyday life of the town and not just an adjunct for the affluent. Much of the work so far has gone into massive infrastructure and reclamation schemes, restoring dock walls, installing new lock gates and building sea defences; the essential, if unglamorous, part of the development.

Plans for the former south docks include 1,500 new homes, and shops, pubs, restaurants, a business park and a maritime heritage centre. There will be permanent facilities for ship restoration, an industry the town has made its own since the acclaimed work on HMS Warrior, an old iron-clad battleship.

Earlier this year, the first housing on the marina, Warrior Quay, was officially opened by Sir George Younger, the housing minister. The 106 homes consist of flats costing from £51,500 to £128,000 and four-bedroom houses from £107,000.

At present, 82 of the projected 450 berths have been completed and 52 have been bought by boat-owners, mainly from the immediate area.

Pat Keating, the marina manager, says Hartlepool, located between the facilities at Hull to the south and Amble to the north, is well-placed to appeal to boating enthusiasts.

Profitability lifts off at airport

THE first question companies investing in Teesside ask is "How do we get in and out?", says Ike Dawson, the managing director of Teesside International Airport, whose job has been to turn the local airport at Middleton St George into a springboard for worldwide business and tourist travel.

"We provide an essential service to the region," Mr Dawson says. "The links to London and the other centres we serve are an important part of the attraction to Japanese and other companies that have moved here."

The aiport is owned and controlled by the local community, with Cleveland and Durham county councils holding the share capital. The number of flights and passengers reached a record last year. Customers range from business executives to holidaymakers and oil industry workers.

About £2.5 million has been spent on airport improvements in the last couple of years, including the Diamond Club lounge for regular British Midland passengers, VIP lounge and Diamond service lounge.

Daily scheduled flights from Teesside include those to Heathrow, Amsterdam, Bergen, Norwich and Stavanger. A twice-daily, 75-minute service reopened recently to London Gatwick, operated by Aberdeen Airways.

The British Midland service to London Heathrow which began 21 years ago offers five flights a day in each direction using DC9 and Boeing 737 aircraft. More than 200,000 passengers a year use the route. Dan Air flies a number of holiday charters from Teesside, with Spain and the Balearic Islands the main destinations, and a daily schedule to Amsterdam and Berlin using BAe 146 and Boeing 737 aircraft.

The airport is an important centre for air freight with a catchment area extending into central Scotland and south towards a line between Manchester and Lincoln. More than half a dozen freight forwarders operate from the airport.

Recently, after much lobbying, the airport won the right to sell duty-free goods, but the privilege is likely to be lost under EC rules governing the single European market.

CARL RUTHERFORD

All-clear for takeoff: Ike Dawson, the managing director of Teesside International Airport, says it achieved record numbers of flights and passengers in the last year

Poly with degree of success

As student numbers rise, the local polytechnic forges links with industry

Teesside is a conurbation steeped in high technology. Curiously, however, the region does not have a university to teach, study and develop skills acknowledged to be nationally vital *(Ronald Faux writes)*.

Indeed, Teesside ranks as the largest industrial conurbation in Europe not to have its own university. What Teesside has is a polytechnic held in such high regard that it has been awarded delegated powers to confer degrees.

As Teesside polytechnic celebrates 21 years of academic achievement, a record number of 7,150 students is embarking on full and part-time courses.

Earlier this year, the Middlesbrough-based polytechnic was among the first higher education institutions to be given delegated authority from the Council for National Academic Awards to approve and sign examination lists.

Dr Oliver Coulthard, the deputy director, says the three notable academic areas in which the polytechnic has been recognised by the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council (PCFC) are in computing, design and chemical engineering.

A 17 per cent rise in student numbers this year followed the staggering 69 per cent increase last year, probably the highest of any British polytechnic. The numbers funded through the PCFC also increased by more than 1,500 to 6,929.

The contribution made by the institution to the industrial and commercial rejuvenation of Cleveland and the northeast is significant.

The most recent examples are in collaborative work with Davy McKee, manufacturers of the world's biggest blast furnaces, and BASF, a leading German-owned chemical manufacturer on Teesside. The two ventures, known as project clinics, produced valuable results.

Davy McKee sought a rapid method of measuring the sulphur content in molten metal in a blast furnace. It is a crucial measurement because sulphur, if not removed, affects the quality of the final product.

Current methods lack the required accuracy and are time-consuming and costly. The steel industry itself failed to produce a cost-effective solution.

Teesside students devised a method that meets the criteria, producing results in less than a minute against the 30 minutes needed in normal methods. Davy McKee was so impressed it hopes to develop, manufacture and market the device worldwide. The company plans to sponsor more project clinics to strengthen the link between industry and academia. The BASF project has produced an evaluation and preliminary solution to improve vent arrangements in storage tanks.

Another bright idea prompted the Post Office to invite an industrial design student to develop his ideas for making a fax machine as publicly available as the telephone. Prototypes are undergoing consumer tests at Post Office service centres throughout Britain. If successful, the design is expected go into production.

People power behind high-tech revolution

THE standard of teaching and training will ultimately determine a region's prosperity. In Teesside, where a miniature industrial revolution has happened in recent years with the change from heavy manual industry to sophisticated technology, people and the quality of their training have acquired the greatest importance *(Ronald Faux writes)*.

The Teesside Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) had this in mind just over a year ago when it assumed many employment department responsibilities.

Les Bell, the Teesside TEC chairman, says that in the first year consultative links, or partnerships, have been established with businesses and educational bodies. Many training and enterprise schemes have been reviewed and redesigned.

He says: "The main challenge still is to create a culture in which training is accepted without question as an essential part of every organisation's business plan and where training is seen as an investment.

"The real challenge is to maintain confidence in the fundamental necessity of continued investment in people."

Teesside TEC was set up with total local funding of £31.3 million, shared among youth and adult training, business and enterprise training and local initiatives.

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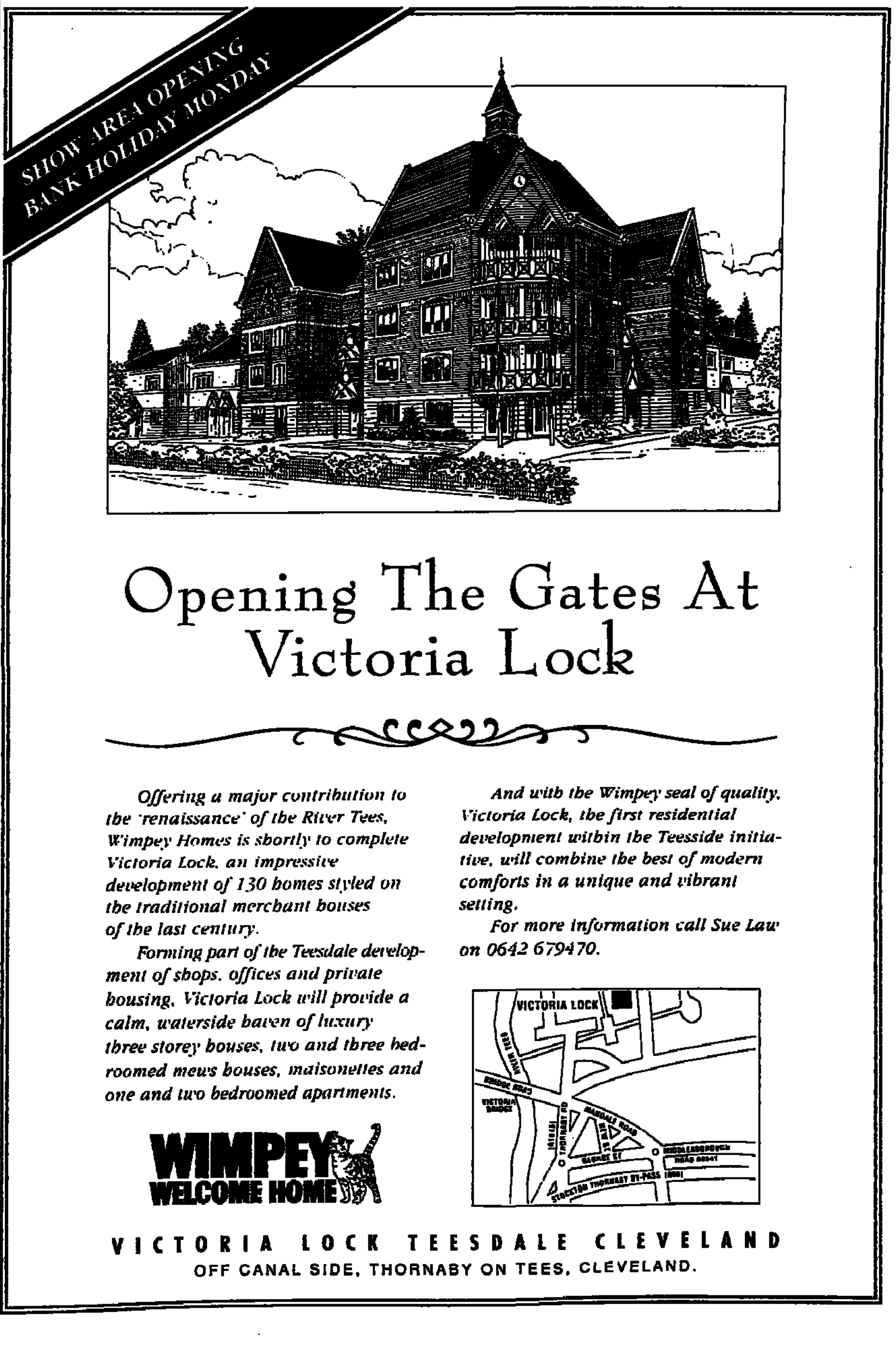

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To know more, contact: Duncan Hall, Chief Executive, Teesside Development Corporation, Tees House, Riverside Park, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS2 1RE. Tel: (0642) 230636. Fax: (0642) 230843.

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Far Eastern promise gives fresh hope

Foreign companies using the northeast as a launchpad into Europe are reviving the local economy, Chris Tighe reports

Iron and steel, heavy engineering, shipbuilding and chemicals gave Teesside a worldwide reputation as one of the great centres of British industry. Chemical and steel production and engineering are still the backbone of the area's economy, but although such industries are at the forefront of change and innovation, Teesside is also trying to diversify its economy by attracting new companies, and developing existing businesses and inward investment.

Cleveland county council's economic strategy document records a decline in manufacturing employment in the county from 105,500 jobs in 1975 to 55,000 in 1988, but it predicts an increase to 56,900 by 1996, partly because of the growth in making goods for consumer markets.

Examples of this trend include the arrival of several Far Eastern companies, such as Japan's Sanyo, which has set up Europe's first magnetron plant, a key component in microwave ovens, at Thornaby, Cleveland, where Tabuchi, a Japanese transformer maker, is also based.

Swilynn, the Hong Kong-based videotape manufacturer, has a factory in Hartlepool, and Samsung Electronics, one of Britain's few South Korean investors, has a video recorder and microwave oven factory at Billingham.

Last November, Integral, of Dallas, opened the biggest American factory development in Teesside for many years. The Middlesbrough plant, making cabling systems and employing 22 people, is Integral's European manufacturing headquarters.

The recent wave of investments, particularly from abroad, may prove to be more enduring

In the past, some investments in the area have been vulnerable to the "branch plant" syndrome, with companies pulling out in response to economic downturns. The recent wave of investments geared to supplying continental markets may prove more enduring. And Peter Crowe, the chief executive of Teesside chamber of commerce, trade and industry, says: "The Japanese and Koreans take the long view; having committed themselves they don't change their mind."

Inward investment, according to the county council's economic strategy review, remains the most effective way to create significant numbers of jobs quickly but is by itself unlikely to lead to the economic restructuring the county needs. It adds that the predominance of large companies has traditionally led to an expectation of employment, rather than entrepreneurial self-employment.

As well as producing jobs fast, inward investment also offers hope of diversifying the jobs market by increasing the stock of higher grade employment. That is one of the attractions for Cleveland of the Ministry of Defence's proposed move of its Quality Assurance Unit from Woolwich and Bromley to Preston Farm, Stockton, where it would employ 1,500 people.

The move was announced two years ago but the government has recently been re-evaluating it as part of its defence spending review. The threat that the move could be scrapped or cut back has alarmed Cleveland's job creation agencies and politicians.

NORTH NEWS & PICTURES

Efficient blot on the landscape: British Steel's Redcar blast furnace reflects the northeast's traditional commitment to heavy industry

The Teesside Development Corporation, which is among those lobbying for the move, estimates it has helped to attract 3,000 jobs to the county in the last three years, by helping 110 companies. This includes inward investments, relocations and expansions.

Among the attractions of Cleveland for potential investors is its access to European funds to assist areas hit by decline in traditional industries.

The county's location beside the North Sea is also important in generating jobs, and should become increasingly so with the advent of the single European market.

The Tees and Hartlepool Port Authority is second only to London in gross tonnage, due partly to the piping to Teesside of North Sea oil. Oil and gas exploration has also provided an important market for firms such as Redpath Offshore. Servicing the offshore industry has also provided a new role for the former Smiths Dock, Teesside's last shipyard, now the site of the Tees Offshore base for companies involved in sub-ocean technology.

Steel records beaten but jobs toll is high

British Steel's priorities on Teesside are summed up by its performance there in recent years. In 1979, 15.82 man hours were spent producing each tonne of liquid steel. Now it is 3.7 hours. The drop indicates an increase in efficiency, partly the result of huge investment.

The company has spent £170 million on capital schemes on Teesside since 1985 *(Chris Tighe writes)*.

The improved performance has, however, exacted a social price. The number of people employed by British Steel at its huge complex on the south bank of the Tees, at its nearby Skinningrove rolling mills, and at Hartlepool, has shrunk from 27,700 in 1970 to 6,000.

The days when Teesside, blessed with ready access to ironstone and coal, was the world's leading producer of iron have long gone. But British Steel is still the western world's largest producer of structural steel sections, most of which are made on Teesside.

In the first quarter of 1991, British Steel exports of structural steel sections to the European Community topped 90,000 tonnes, an all-time record.

Steel sections are exported to dozens of countries worldwide — a valuable hedge against the recession, which has led to a downturn in demand in the UK and United States.

Huge investment and streamlined efficiency by British Steel are opening up new opportunities

Teesside is one of British Steel's five integrated steelworks sites. The others are at Ravenscraig in Scotland, Scunthorpe on Humberside, Port Talbot and Llanwern in Wales. Teesside and Scunthorpe are the main sites in British Steel's general steels division, which in the 1989/90 financial year contributed £1,900 million to the group's £5,100 million turnover.

Teesside alone produced 3.7 million tonnes of British Steel's total 14.4 million tonnes output.

In addition to structural sections, the vast Teesside complex, which includes the Redcar blast furnace, Europe's largest, makes semi-finished products for several other British Steel plants. Blooms — thick bars of steel — from Teesside are, for example, turned into rails at Workington, Cumbria, and rolled at Skinningrove for use in the Soviet shipbuilding industry.

From August, Teesside will supply ingots and slabs to British Steel's Dalzell plate mill in Lanarkshire. This new market has opened up because of British Steel's rundown of its Ravenscraig complex — a rationalisation that has sparked fears of further restructuring within the group.

As part of its search for greater efficiency British Steel is involved in negotiations with its unions on Teesside about multi-skilling work arrangements. Already, many of the traditional divisions between crafts have been swept away, but the new proposals would go further.

"Team working is one of the things which has to be looked at for the future," says a British Steel spokesman.

A more unusual efficiency move by British Steel is its recent purchase, at an undisclosed price, of a second-hand large diameter pipe mill from Japan, where it had become surplus because of rationalisation. The mill is being shipped in sections to Hartlepool, where it will replace the 44in pipe mill, to satisfy in particular the needs of the North Sea offshore oil industry.

Battle over boundaries

FOR anyone other than a knowledgeable resident, it can be difficult to tell where the boundary between one local authority ends and another begins in Cleveland (*Peter Davenport writes*).

Beneath the umbrella of the county council there are four district authorities in a tightly knit conurbation containing most of the population of about 500,000.

Supporters of the system say that it is neccessary to safeguard local pride and traditions. Critics, however, claim the lack of a single identity for the area hinders progress.

Under the review begun by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, the structure of local government in the area is likely to change, possibly reverting closer to the situation before the 1974 shake-up that produced the county council and the district authorities of Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Langbaurgh and Stockton-on-Tees.

Although there is widespread support for change, details and boundaries of any new authority are certain to be the subject of fierce debate.

Local government structure under the microscope

Some believe services within the existing county boundary should be provided by one authority, while others insist that changes should be based on the existing district councils.

In 1968, the 13 councils covering the area were amalgamated to produce the Teesside county borough. That single-tier authority lasted six years, when the new county of Cleveland was established.

Bruce Stephenson, chief executive of the county council, says his authority would be willing to support its own demise. "There is a general feeling that the two-tier system is not effective in urban areas. It is unlikely the county would argue for the maintenance of that system and, therefore, for its own survival in its present form," Mr Stephenson says. "There is a strong view developing that the sensible thing to do is to abolish all five authorities, the county and the four boroughs, and start again."

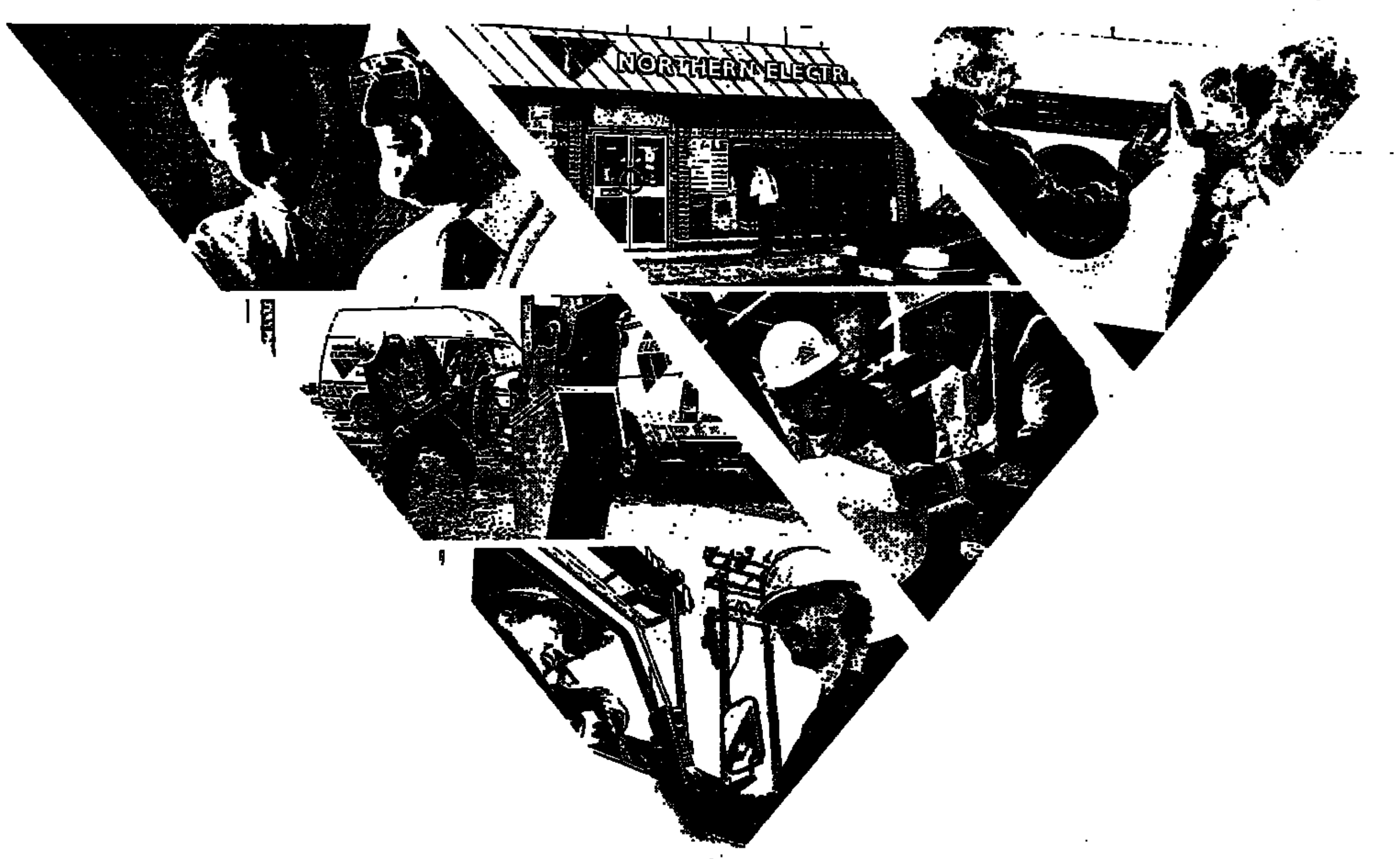
Cleveland is unique because the area has a cluster of councils serving an urban area that is about 40 miles away from the next main population centre.

"There is so much dissatisfaction with the two-tier system here, both from the public and the professionals who work within it. The professionals find the system frustrating, inefficient and expensive. The public simply find it very confusing," Mr Stephenson says.

Mike Carr, the leader of Middlesbrough council, says that although everyone agrees a unitary system of local government would benefit the area, there is disagreement on what form it should take.

"Whatever the outcome, it is essential the system is given time to work. It should not be a quick fix, but something that will be in place in 50 or 100 years. Reorganisation should be based on existing district council boundaries. Teesside and Cleveland might be accurate geographical expressions, but they are not communities."

NORTHERN PEOPLE



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Second Set can follow up encouraging debut win

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

AT NEWMARKET on 2,000 Guineas day few could have failed to hear the persistent rumour that the local trainer Luca Cumani had a good chance of winning the last race on the programme with his promising newcomer Second Set.

Sometimes the racecourse whispers can be wide of the mark, but in this instance the gossip turned out to be 100 percent accurate. Although the more experienced Shaleel and Claret were both preferred in the betting, it was the Dettori-ridden Second Set who dominated the race.

In the lead from the start, he gradually quickened the tempo to come home three and a half lengths ahead of Claret at the end of the seven-furlong trip. I can see no reason why Second Set should not be equally at ease when he contests the slightly longer Sydney Sandon Stakes at Haydock this afternoon. He is my nap.

From a breeding point of view, Second Set should certainly get the trip since both his sire Alzao and his dam's brother Brinkmanship did so in better company.

Since making that highly promising debut, Second Set has continued to work stylishly on Newmarket Heath while the form has been upheld by Claret winning his next race.

Undeterred by the outcome of their previous encounter, Dick Hern has decided to let Claret take on Second Set again but I find it hard to envisage him gaining his revenge on only 3lb better terms.

While opposition in the ring beforehand can also be expected from both the Dee Stakes third Arokat and Fateful, especially the latter who has won her only races at Doncaster and Wolverhampton, I still much prefer Second Set, who has already been entered for such smart races as the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot and the Sussex Stakes at Goodwood.

Earlier in the programme Arokat's jockey Pat Eddery will be wearing the same colours when he gets the leg up on Silver Rainbow in the Moss Bank Maiden Stakes. The colt is a full-brother to last year's Derby winner Quest For Fame.

While it is obvious that this colt is not as good as his brother at the same stage of his career, the word from Pulborough is that he is still capable of making his mark in this company, especially now that the horses in Guy Harwood's care have begun to fire on all cylinders.

Mohammed Moubarak is another trainer whose horses are currently in good form. At Thirsk last Saturday his useful four-year-old Starlight Flyer was the comfortable winner of what appeared to be quite at tough looking handicap.

Now I find it significant that he has decided to saddle the same horse with a 4lb penalty for the Daresbury Handicap instead of running his other entry, State Dancer, who had also distinguished himself earlier that week when finishing third behind Mellottie and Lord Of Tusmore in a much better race at York.

Bolger's colt runs in Derby

JIM Bolger yesterday announced Star Of Gdansk, a head second to Fourstars Allstar in the Irish 2,000 Guineas at the Curragh last Saturday, as a definite runner in the Derby next month. The son of Danzig Connection pleased Bolger in a workout yesterday morning.

Christy Roche will take the ride. Roche already has a Derby winner to his name in Secreto, who was the last Irish-trained winner when successful seven years ago.

Toulon, the favourite for the Derby, pleased his trainer Andre Fabre in a gallop yesterday. "There are no problems," Fabre said. "He eats well and sleeps well, but I hope he has improved since Chester."

Fabre intends to be at Sandown Park on Monday to saddle the five-year-old Mardonius in the Henry II Stakes over two miles. Sheikh Mohammed's *horse, who won the Prix* de Barbeville at Saint-Cloud on May 1, could face a maximum of nine opponents, including the Luca Cumani-trained Crack.

Four-day ban but Munro escapes greater penalty

By RICHARD EVANS

ALAN Munro yesterday came within a whisker of losing his plum ride on Generous in the Derby following an appalling lack of judgment at Goodwood.

The 24-year-old jockey can count himself lucky to have been suspended for only four days after he went for a non-existent gap between two horses on Magic Ring in the Clive *Graham* Stakes and ended up barging his way through. Magic Ring was relegated from first to last after a stewards' enquiry.

Munro's ban for careless riding will be from June 1 to 4 inclusive, enabling him to return on Derby day.

The young rider's blunder was all the more inexcusable because there were only four runners in the day's feature race and he had no end of space to make his challenge.

Magic Ring, sent off a heavily backed 7-4 on favourite, was always going to win from a furlong and a half out. But instead of making his challenge on the outside of the front-running Tino Tere and Robins Arrow, Munro forced his way through the middle, sending Pat Eddery and Tino Tere careering across the track.

Magic Ring went on to win by a comfortable five lengths, but the look on the face of Paul Cole in the winner's enclosure was enough to convince any optimists that he would not keep the race.

"He could have gone anywhere. As he got close I thought for heaven's sake don't do that - and he did," said the trainer.

The ban and demotion of Magic Ring brought Munro's dream start as Fahd Salman's retained jockey to an abrupt end. Before yesterday's incident, he had ridden six winners from 11 rides for the Saudi prince during the previous 10 days.

"It was my mistake. I just brushed Pat but because he was on a tired horse and rolled away it looked worse than it actually was. It certainly didn't cost Pat the race," Munro said.

Nigel Tinkler, trainer of Robins Arrow, promoted from second to first, said: "It is not a nice way to win a race. We have been beaten five lengths and it could have been 10."

Darryll Holland, probably the best 5lb claimer riding today, has a distinctive American style similar to that of Munro but enjoyed better fortune, completing a 142-1 double on Anxious Times and Northern Conqueror.

The Manchester-born teenager had not sat on a horse until three and a half years ago but joined Barry Hills after taking his 'O' levels.

Holland rode his first winner 12 months ago and yesterday's double completed a career half century.

The three-day meeting at Goodwood went well for the bookmakers with several well-backed favourites toppled. But while Barkerville was another market leader to be foiled in the Sussex Militia Maiden Stakes, Flashfoot's win proved costly. Backed from 7-1 to 7-2, Ian Balding's colt wore down the favourite in the final furlong to land a gamble for connections.

HAYDOCK PARK

MANDARIN
2.00 Silver Rainbow.
2.30 Restore.
3.00 Starlight Flyer.
3.30 SECOND SET (nap).
4.00 Mariecurie Express.
4.30 Dominuet.

THUNDERER
2.00 Silver Rainbow.
2.30 KESTREL FORBOXES (nap).
3.00 Starlight Flyer.
3.30 Second Set.
4.00 Nur.
4.30 Figment.

MICHAEL SEELY
3.00 STARLIGHT FLYER (nap).
3.30 Second Set.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Al Mutahm. 3.30 SECOND SET (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 KESTREL FORBOXES.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS
DRAW: 5f-6f, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.0 MOSS BANK MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,184: 1m 4f) (8 runners)

1	(2)	3	AL MUTAHM 37 (BF) (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) A Stewart 9-0	M Roberts	97
2	(7)	3-5	BUSHY TAILED 16 (P Oppenheimer) G Wragg 9-0	G Carter	92
3	(3)	5	GOIN AND GROWIN 27 (R Duchossois) L Cumani 9-0	L Dettori	91
4	(1)	5	GONDOLIER 20 (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 9-0	W Ryan	● 99
5	(5)	1	JACKSON FLINT 21 (G) (Mrs H Jones) H Thomson Jones 9-0	R Hills	—
6	(8)	0	SESAME SEED 27 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Watts 9-0	Dean McKeown	78
7	(6)		SILVER RAINBOW (K Abdulla) G Harwood 9-0	Pat Eddery	—
8	(4)	00-	CASCADE 225 (Lord Hartington) D Morley 8-9	G Hind (3)	—

BETTING: 2-1 Silver Rainbow, 11-4 Al Mutahm, 4-1 Goin And Growin, 6-1 Jackson Flint, 7-1 Gondolier, 9-1 Bushy Tailed, 14-1 Others.

1990: MIDDLE KINGDOM 3-9-0 Pat Eddery (2-1 fav) B Hills 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

AL MUTAHM 3½l 3rd to Gai Bulga at Pontefract (1m 2f, good to firm). BUSHY TAILED 5l 5th to Shah Diamond at Salisbury (1m 4f, good). GOIN AND GROWIN 4l 5th to Man Of Gold at Ripon (1m 2f, good to firm), with SESAME SEED (same terms) 5l 9th. GONDOLIER 18½l 5th to Le Corsaire at Newmarket (1m 4f, good). JACKSON FLINT beat sole rival Card Trick 5l at Newmarket (1m, good). SILVER RAINBOW full-brother by Rainbow Quest to 1990 Derby winner Quest For Fame. Dam won French 1,000 Guineas.
Selection: AL MUTAHM

2.30 STRETFORD CLAIMING STAKES (£3,272: 6f) (16 runners)

1	(5)	1-11145	TOSHIBA COMET 14 (B,CD,G,S) (P Judd) W Pearce 4-9-9	G Husband (5)	91
2	(9)	030-020	IKSAB 14 (BF,CD,F,S) (A Foustok) R Boss 4-9-4	L Dettori	91
3	(4)	1640-00	RANCHO MIRAGE 27 (G) (J Redmond) J Watts 4-9-2	Dean McKeown	83
4	(12)	100/303-	ATALL ATALL 357 (D,F,G) (S Monaghan) G Moore 8-9-0	N Kennedy (5)	83
5	(3)	00-3502	BANHAM COLLEGE 14 (J Smith) B McMahon 5-9-0	T Quinn	82
6	(16)	0056-10	RESTORE 31 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs N Lewis) G Lewis 8-8-13	Paul Eddery	95
7	(2)	40-6105	BALLAD DANCER 49 (D,S) (M Graham) E Alston 6-8-11	A Munro	71
8	(7)	0/00000-	DAL MISS 217 (F Lloyd Ltd) R Peacock 4-8-11	T Williams	—
9	(13)	500-300	SUSAN'S REEF 6 (S Martin) J Bradley 6-8-11	J Williams	56
10	(14)	00056-6	VALLEY MILLS 6 (D,F,G,S) (T Barron) T Barron 11-8-11	Alex Greaves (3)	62
11	(1)	16135-5	KESTREL FORBOXES 44 (D,F) (Laurel Ltd) J Berry 3-8-10	S Haworth (7)	● 99
12	(6)	2544-00	CHRISTIAN LAD 22 (F) (R Robinson) J Berry 3-8-9	J Carroll	81
13	(8)	00000-6	COMIC RELIEF 21 (A Fletcher) B Morgan 4-8-8	C Hodgson (5)	—
14	(15)	033-000	HINARI HI FI 10 (D,F,G) (J Abbey) W Haigh 8-8-6	R Lappin	67
15	(11)	53245-0	NAGEM 34 (D,F) (L Barratt) L Barratt 8-8-6	F Norton (7)	67
16	(10)	10000-0	KEVINSBELLE 52 (F) (K Moorcroft) E Eldin 3-8-0	A Mackay	84

BETTING: 5-2 Kestrel Forboxes, 4-1 Restore, 7-1 Atall Atall, 8-1 Toshiba Comet, Iksab, 10-1 Rancho Mirage, 12-1 Christian Lad, 14-1 Banham College, Kevinsbelle, Ballad Dancer, 16-1 Others.

1990: IKSAB 3-9-2 Pat Eddery (6-1) R Boss 22 ran

FORM FOCUS

TOSHIBA COMET 2¾l 5th to Wanda in a handicap at Lingfield (6f, good), with IKSAB (same terms) 5¾l 8th. ATALL ATALL 3l 3rd to Cumbrian Express in similar race at Newcastle (6f, firm). BANHAM COLLEGE 2½l 2nd to Kiveton Komet in a maiden at Beverley (5f, firm). RESTORE comfortably beat Plain Fact 1l on reappearance in a claimer at Warwick (5f, good to firm). KESTREL FORBOXES 10½l 5th to Reshift in an apprentices' race at Ripon (6f, soft).
Selection: RESTORE

3.0 DARESBURY HANDICAP (£6,056: 1m 40yd) (6 runners)

1	(2)	0100-00	DANCING MONARCH 6 (V,D,F) (S Reakes) R Hollinshead 6-9-10	S Perks	87
2	(4)	000-001	STARLIGHT FLYER 6 (B,D,F) (E Fustok) M Moubarak 4-9-7 (4ex)	A Cruz	● 99
3	(6)	540200-	L'UOMO CLASSICS 20J (F) (C Pratt) Mrs J Pitman 4-9-4	Pat Eddery	82
4	(5)	1/0004-0	CARLINGFORD 8 (F) (Mrs H Wane) K McCauley 5-8-8	L Charnock	96
5	(3)	3364-03	FALCONS DAWN 13 (V,S) (A King) M O'Neill 4-8-4	J Fortune	93
6	(1)	3-64634	SHARP N' SMOOTH 16 (D) (Mrs E Mitchell) R Hannon 4-8-4	W Carson	96

BETTING: 5-4 Starlight Flyer, 7-2 Sharp N' Smooth, 9-2 Falcons Dawn, 8-1 Dancing Monarch, 10-1 L'Umo Classics, 16-1 Carlingford.

1990: JADEITE 4-8-6 Pat Eddery (9-2) R Boss 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

STARLIGHT FLYER beat Causley 3l at Thirsk (1m, good to firm), with DANCING MONARCH (4lb better off) 18l 8th. L'UOMO CLASSICS chances on form of when 2l 2nd to Gulmarg at Wolverhampton (1m 1f, good) last August.
CARLINGFORD, led after 1f until over 3f out, well-beaten 9th of 18 to Mellottie at York (1m, good to firm). FALCONS DAWN ½l 3rd to Duckington at Beverley (7f 110yd, firm). SHARP N' SMOOTH 4½l 4th to You Know The Rules at Sandown (1m, good). Previously 2l 3rd to Nicholas at Newmarket (7f, good to firm).
Selection: SHARP N' SMOOTH

3.30 SYDNEY SANDON STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,720: 1m 40yds) (5 runners)

1	(4)	312-53	AROKAT 15 (G) (K Abdulla) B Hills 9-7	Pat Eddery	92
2	(3)	1	SECOND SET 20 (G) (R Duchossois) L Cumani 9-7	L Dettori	● 99
3	(5)	32-321	CLARET 13 (G) (D) (Lord Rotherwick) W Hern 9-4	W Carson	95
4	(1)	0	FLYING SPEED 34 (E Fustok) M Moubarak 9-0	A Cruz	—
5	(2)	1-1	FATEFUL 11 (F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-13	S Cauthen	97

BETTING: 4-6 Second Set, 5-2 Fateful, 9-2 Claret, 8-1 Arokat, 33-1 Flying Speed.

1990: STAR OF THE FUTURE 3-8-13 Pat Eddery (7-1) B Hills 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

AROKAT staying-on 4½l 3rd to Hundra in a listed race at Chester (1m 2f 85yd, good). Won maiden at same course (7f, good) in August. SECOND SET made all to beat CLARET (3lb better off) 3½l in a maiden at Newmarket (7f, good). CLARET comfortably beat The Dawn Trader 2½l in maiden at Newmarket (1m, good). Previously 4l 3rd to Ristna in a maiden at Newbury (1m, good), with FLYING SPEED (4lb better off) 19th of 25. FATEFUL pushed out to beat Aldazzo 1l at Wolverhampton (7f, good to firm). Previously beat Sarah 1l in a 21-runner maiden at Doncaster (6f, good).
Selection: SECOND SET (nap)

4.0 EBF ST HELENS MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,954: 5f) (6 runners)

1	(6)	02	AMOUREUSE 15 (R Jones) E Owen Jr 8-11	C Dwyer	● 99
2	(1)		MARIECURIE EXPRESS (Express Marie Curie Racing Club) J Berry 8-11	J Carroll	—
3	(2)		NUR (Hamdan Al-Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 8-11	R Hills	—
4	(4)		PERSIAN EMPRESS (Mrs B Facchino) B McMahon 8-11	T Quinn	—
5	(3)		SHALL WE RUN (Mrs R Johnson Houghton) R Johnson Houghton 8-11	J Reid	—
6	(5)		TREASURE TROVE (F Salman) M Bell 8-11	A Munro	—

BETTING: 6-4 Nur, 5-2 Mariecurie Express, 3-1 Treasure Trove, 4-1 Shall We Run, 5-1 Amoureuse, 14-1 Persian Empress.

1990: MARAATIB 2-8-11 R Hills (4-7 fav) H Thomson Jones 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMOUREUSE caught close home when neck 2nd to Hay Yuen in a maiden at Chester (5f, good). MARIECURIE EXPRESS (foaled Mar 9, cost 7,400gns) half-sister by Sizzling Melody to Yukosan, winner of four races at 5f-6f. Dam was a winning juvenile at 7f. NUR (Mar 14) full-sister by Diesis to smart sprint winner Ra'a. Dam was a winning juvenile at 5f-6f. PERSIAN EMPRESS (Mar 4, Ir13,500gns) full-sister by Persian Bold to Persian Royale, winner of four races including Irish Cambridgeshire. SHALL WE RUN (Apr 13) full-sister by Hotfoot to Fire Top, multiple winner at up to 1m 2f. Half-sister to top class juvenile sprinter Dead Certain. Dam a winner at up to 1m 2f in France. TREASURE TROVE (May 20) first foal, by The Minstrel. Dam a winner at 1m 4f in listed company in Italy.
No selection

4.30 GARSWOOD PARK HANDICAP (£3,850: 5f) (12 runners)

1	(1)	80-8003	METAL BOYS 9 (D,F,G) (North Staffs Racing Club) R Hollinshead 4-9-10	S Perks	95
2	(11)	110-050	ZANDRIL 9 (D,F,G) (A Budge Ltd) R Hannon 3-9-5	B Raymond	97
3	(12)	60430-0	LAKE MISTASSIU 34 (B,CD,F,S) (J Lambton) G Pritchard-Gordon 4-9-3	W Hood	94
4	(2)	1135-09	HEAVEN-LIEGH-GREY 17 (V,D,F,G) (P Dodd) J Berry 3-9-3	J Carroll	95
5	(3)	120-000	FIDDLING 18 (D,F) (Mrs R Watson) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-11	Dean McKeown	90
6	(7)	3040-01	BREEZY DAY 15 (D,G) (Mrs J McMahon) B McMahon 5-8-9	W Carson	● 99
7	(10)	420-003	NO QUARTER GIVEN 15 (D,F,G,S) (P Felgate) P Felgate 6-8-8	R Cochrane	97
8	(4)	412404	LANGUEDOC 18 (D) (Mrs R Olivier) K McCauley 4-8-8	L Charnock	97
9	(9)	0-12460	BRISAS 7 (B,CD,F,G) (B Cann) T Fairhurst 4-8-6	J Fanning (5)	98
10	(5)	000400-	FIGMENT 9 (B,D,F) (Mrs C Wadsworth) D Chapman 4-8-4	M Roberts	90
11	(6)	500060-	RESTLESS DON 310 (CD,F) (R Tindall) M H Easterby 6-8-0	J Lowe	80
12	(8)	00-4020	DOMINUET 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Heathcote) J Spearing 6-7-13	R Fox	98

BETTING: 4-1 Breezy Day, 5-1 No Quarter Given, 11-2 Languedoc, 6-1 Metal Boys, Figment, 8-1 Fiddling, 10-1 Lake Mistassiu, Zandril, 12-1 Heaven-Leigh-Grey, Brisas, 14-1 others.

1990: CANTORIS 4-9-4 S Maroun (11-4) R Williams 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

METAL BOYS running-on 1½l 3rd to Gemini Fire at York (5f, good to firm), with ZANDRIL (same terms) 4½l 10th and FIGMENT (1lb better off) close 11th. HEAVEN-LIEGH-GREY 14l 8th to Macfarlane at Chester (5f, good to soft) last time out. Won a nursery over this trip at Windsor (good) in August.
FIDDLING 6l 7th to Eager Deva at Beverley (5f, firm), with DOMINUET (8lb worse off) fast-finishing 2½l 9th. Won a maiden at Edinburgh (5f, good to firm) last April. BREEZY DAY got up to beat Love Legend a neck at Chester (5f, good), with FIGMENT (5lb better off) 2l 4th. NO QUARTER GIVEN two heads 3rd to Dalesside Ladybird at Carlisle (5f, firm). LANGUEDOC staying-on 2l 4th to Singing Star at Doncaster (5f, good to firm), with FIDDLING (3lb better off) 4½l 6th.
Selection: METAL BOYS

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
H Cecil	37	87	42.5	S Cauthen	29	88	33.0
J Gosden	7	25	28.0	Pat Eddery	32	145	22.1
R Boss	13	47	27.7	W Ryan	28	150	18.7
G Harwood	15	69	21.7	L Dettori	8	45	17.8
B Hills	27	127	21.3	R Cochrane	16	91	17.6
L Cumani	16	76	21.1	J Reid	19	112	17.0

PONTEFRACT

MANDARIN
6.45 Mamma's Too.
7.10 Lombard Ships.
7.35 Good Profile.
8.05 Shadow Bird.
8.35 Every One A Gem.
9.05 Duplicity.

THUNDERER
6.45 Mamma's Too.
7.10 Norquay.
7.35 Good Profile.
8.05 Shadow Bird.
8.35 Master Glen.
9.05 Duplicity.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 8.35 Every One A Gem.

GOING: FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.45 COURSE BOOKMAKERS GRADUATION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,782: 5f) (7 runners)

1	(2)	21	POP TO STANS 7 (B,D,F) (W Spink) T Barron 9-3	Alex Greaves (3)	91
2	(7)	1	SURE TO WIN 24 (D,G) (P Savill) G Lewis 9-3	K Darley	98
3	(1)	1	MAMMA'S TOO 25 (CD,F) (J Brown) J Berry 8-12	J Carroll	92
4	(5)	24	CASTLEREA LAD 16 (BF) (Mrs T Graham) R Hollinshead 8-11	W Carson	● 99
5	(3)		OUR JOHN (A Tiddirou) Ronald Thompson 8-11	R P Elliott	—
6	(6)		SIMPLY GEORGE (K Sturgis) R Boss 8-11	L Dettori	—
7	(4)	5	TOMS VERDICT 11 (M McDonnell) W O'Gorman 8-11	A Cruz	95

BETTING: 15-8 Mamma's Too, 3-1 Sure To Win, 4-1 Toms Verdict, 9-2 Pop To Stans, 8-1 Castlerea Lad, 14-1 Simply George, 25-1 Our John.

1990: GIPSY FIDDLER 9-3 K Fallon (2-1) J J O'Neill 8 ran

7.10 NARBOL CLAIMING STAKES (£3,370: 1m) (14 runners)

1	(13)	064-005	STYLISH GENT 36 (F) (Exors of N Phillips) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-4	W R Swinburn	● 99
2	(8)	233U36-	OVERPOWER 209J (D,F,S) (M Bowring) M Tompkins 7-8-13	R Cochrane	82
3	(12)	10001/0-	SAYMORE 189J (D,F,S) (C Brooks) C Brooks 5-8-13	J Reid	—
4	(10)	02-02	ACQUISITION 15 (T Holdcroft (Motors) Ltd) J Berry 4-8-11	J Carroll	94
5	(11)	0000-00	EVER SO SHARP 15 (B,F,G) (P Wheeler) J Smith 8-8-11	G Duffield	—
6	(14)	2140-01	LOMBARD SHIPS 15 (D,F,S) (L F Warehousing Ltd) M O'Neill 4-8-10	J Fortune	94
7	(4)	6-50336	CLASSIC SUITE 14 (D,F,S) (G Farndon) R Woodhouse 5-8-9	D Nicholls	84
8	(1)	006344	NORQUAY 5 (D,F,G,S) (Full Circle Thoroughbreds G Plc) N Tinkler 6-8-8.	Kim Tinkler	84
9	(5)	006/001	STORMY PRAISE 51 (D,S) (K Stokes) W G M Turner 7-8-8	T Sprake (5)	83
10	(3)	2	FLASH BULB 11 (T Hetherton) J Hetherton 4-8-8	J Lowe	85
11	(7)	6-600	OUR TOPSIE 20 (M Kelly) H Collingridge 4-8-7	V Smith	85
12	(9)	005-	CHEERFUL CHARLIE 202 (Exors of the late Mrs B Smith) B McMahon 4-8-6	K Fallon	96
13	(2)	009602	MISS SARAJANE 11 (CD,F,G,S) (G Smyth) R Hollinshead 7-8-4	W Carson	89
14	(6)	0/00-000	MOST OF ALL 14 (H Rushworth) T Kersey 5-8-1	Paul Burke	—

BETTING: 11-4 Miss Sarajane, 4-1 Lombard Ships, 6-1 Stylish Gent, 7-1 Acquisition, Overpower, 15-2 Flash Bulb, 10-1 Stormy Praise, 12-1 others.

1990: TWOTIME BID 4-8-13 R Hills (10-1) Miss S Hall 16 ran

7.35 GEORGE FARNDON HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £4,467: 1m) (12 runners)

1	(3)	31250-0	HIGHLAND SPIRIT 9 (F) (G Senior) R Whitaker 9-7	W Carson	84
2	(7)	26-4340	MARTINI EXECUTIVE 10 (F) (P Ward) W Pearce 9-4	D Nicholls	86
3	(6)	52-211	GOOD PROFILE 13 (D,F) (Esograt Ltd) S Norton 9-2	K Darley	94
4	(8)	212530	ABLE JET 30 (F,S) (S Roots) Mrs N Macauley 9-0	J Marshall (7)	98
5	(11)	20320-0	MY ALMA 13 (F) (G Farndon) R Holder 8-12	J Williams	94
6	(1)	0-105	MATTS BOY 20 (S) (Lord Matthews) Miss S Hall 8-10	N Connorton	90
7	(4)	82-356	SINCLAIR LAD 17 (Sinclair Developments Ltd) R Hollinshead 8-6	G Hind (3)	94
8	(12)	106-0	GAELIC CHIEF 19 (F) (J Acklam) C Tinkler 8-6	M Birch	93
9	(9)	630-593	KILLINGHALL 15 (B,BF) (Mrs M Irwin) J Watts 8-4	Dean McKeown	93
10	(10)	460	ADMIRALS SEAT 29 (N De Savary) Mrs J Ramsden 8-3	K Fallon	● 99
11	(2)	000222	WILD PROSPECT 15 (G) (G Dyson) C Tinkler 8-2	G Duffield	93
12	(5)	00-6016	EAST BARNS 15 (V,D,F) (J Boland) J Wainwright 8-2	G Carter	93

BETTING: 9-4 Good Profile, 9-2 Admirals Seat, Sinclair Lad, 15-2 Killinghall, 10-1 Wild Prospect, 12-1 Highland Spirit, 14-1 Able Jet, 16-1 others.

1990: BOTTLES 9-0 M Wigham (100-30) G Huffer 13 ran

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

8.05 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP (£3,003: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

1	(2)	1605-03	SHADOW BIRD 9 (G) (Mrs R Buxton) G Pritchard-Gordon 4-10-0	W R Swinburn	94
2	(10)	124-510	VICEROY JESTER 17 (D,F,G,S) (F Broom) R Holder 6-9-9	S Drowne (7)	92
3	(8)	660-556	ACCESS CRUISE 18 (Miss D Williams) R Boss 4-9-5	L Dettori	● 99
4	(5)	445-046	SPOOF 30 (S Huenjak & B King) M Hammond 4-9-2	J Carroll	95
5	(1)	050/030	REVARO 10 (G,S) (G Ridley) Mrs J Ramsden 5-8-13	Dean McKeown	96
6	(9)	0-30430	NORTHGATE KING 13 (S) (M Brittain) M Brittain 4-8-13	K Darley	98
7	(4)	305260-	CASPIAN GATES 245 (D,F) (B Fulton) A Lee 7-8-13	J Quinn	94
8	(3)	0606-00	POLISTATIC 11 (T Sumner) C Horgan 4-8-8	Dale Gibson	91
9	(6)	00-000	PAREVA 8 (B) (J Chapman) J Wainwright 4-7-12	L Charnock	—
10	(7)	00/0000-	CONTACT KELVIN 20J (D,S) (Mrs M Ashton) N Bycroft 9-7-7	J Fanning (5)	—

Long handicap: Contact Kelvin 7-0.
BETTING: 7-2 Shadow Bird, 5-1 Revaro, 13-2 Access Cruise, Viceroy Jester, 7-1 Northgate King, 8-1 Caspian Gates, 10-1 Spoof, 14-1 others.

1990: HITCHENSTOWN 7-7-1 Jaki Houston (12-1) M O'Neill 5 ran

8.35 TOTE HANDICAP (£3,493: 1m 2f) (11 runners)

1	(3)	2160-01	TOUCH ABOVE 13 (D,F) (Mrs J Hazell) T Barron 5-9-10	M Wigham	92
2	(2)	32-1041	EVERY ONE A GEM 15 (D,F) (G Green) M Ryan 4-9-8	G Carter	95
3	(10)	034032	SHARQUIN 7 (D,F,G) (M Murphy) M Brittain 4-9-4	T Williams	98
4	(6)	43643-0	BATTLE OF FLOWERS 11 (P Pritchard) C Wall 4-9-4	W R Swinburn	92
5	(11)	46300-0	TARDA 22 (Mrs D Homer) Mrs G Reveley 4-9-0	J Lowe	96
6	(9)	0100-03	FORD KING 14 (F) (Ford Asphalt) M O'Neill 4-9-0	J Fortune	90
7	(8)	000-01	MASTER GLEN 24 (D,S) (G Platt) G Oldroyd 3-8-13	B McGiff	● 99
8	(7)	254-006	RAPID LAD 13 (D,F,G,S) (S Borsberry) J Spearing 13-8-11	D Nicholls	89
9	(4)	413-220	SHIKARI KID 32 (S) (G Corbett) S Norton 4-8-7	L Charnock	96
10	(1)	0/00600-	VERBARIUM 384 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Ramsden) Mrs J Ramsden 11-7-11	J Quinn	88
11	(5)	50210-0	BOBBY ON THE BANK 36 (CD,F,S) (R Molyneux) M O'Neill 5-7-9	A Mackay	93

BETTING: 3-1 Every One A Gem, 11-2 Sharquin, 6-1 Touch Above, Verbarium, 8-1 Bobby On The Bank, 10-1 Ford King, 12-1 Tarda, 14-1 Master Glen, 16-1 others.

1990: NEW MEXICO 6-10-0 M Roberts (5-1) D Morley 16 ran

9.05 FRIENDS OF THE NORTHERN RACING SCHOOL MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,978: 6f) (9 runners)

1	(7)	0-3	DUPLICITY 38 (J Khan) L Holt 9-0	J Reid	81
2	(8)	0	ELEGANT FRIEND 7 (G Grant) M Tompkins 9-0	C Hodgson (5)	—
3	(9)	6030-46	FIRST SUCCESS 13 (BF) (S Al Homeizi) R Boss 9-0	L Dettori	92
4	(4)	00-	HERE COMES A STAR 175 (D Woeskow) J Etherington 9-0	K Darley	—
5	(2)	34-	STAR NEWS 220 (Sheffield Newspapers Ltd) M Tompkins 9-0	R Cochrane	61
6	(1)	2-3	BOLD COOKIE 6 (BF) (Lord Matthews) Miss S Hall 8-9	N Connorton	● 99
7	(5)	6300-5	BORN TO FLY 16 (Mrs B Facchino) B McMahon 8-9	S Sanders (5)	78
8	(6)		MARIA MEDICI (Lanesfield Racing) Mrs L Piggott 8-9	B Crossley	—
9	(3)	500-	SWIFT STREAM 196 (Home Stud Ltd) R Johnson Houghton 8-9	Dean McKeown	87

BETTING: 13-8 Duplicity, 5-2 Bold Cookie, 11-2 First Success, 8-1 Elegant Friend, 10-1 Swift Stream, 14-1 Maria Medici, 16-1 Born To Fly, Star News, 25-1 Here Comes A Star.

1990: SLADES HILL 9-0 E Johnson (9-1) Miss S Hall 6 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
G Oldroyd	3	13	23.1	L Dettori	6	22	27.3
G P-Gordon	5	23	21.7	W Carson	4	20	20.0
C Wall	4	20	20.0	J Carroll	14	81	17.3
Lord Huntingdon	6	31	19.4	R Cochrane	18	107	16.8
W O'Gorman	4	22	18.2	W R Swinburn	7	43	16.3
Mrs L Piggott	4	24	16.7	K Fallon	8	60	13.3

Pipe on brink of another record

MARTIN Pipe, the reigning champion National Hunt trainer, could equal his own record of 224 winners in a season at Towcester this afternoon. Always Special, Pipe's only runner of the day, contests the Bishop of Brixworth Handicap Hurdle.

Morley Street, the champion hurdler, has ended the four-year reign of Desert Orchid by topping the poll in the Racegoers' Club Horse of the Year Award for the 1990-91 season. He is the first hurdler to take the title since Dawn Run in 1983-84.

On the Flat, apprentice Darren Biggs rides at three meetings tomorrow. He begins with Coral Sundown in the 2.15 at Doncaster, drives to Haydock for Unassuming in the 4.30, then has two mounts at Southwell's evening fixture.

SEDGEFIELD

MANDARIN
2.00 Cock-A-Doodle-Do. 2.30 Italian Boy. 3.00 Greenheart. 3.30 Bronze Head. 4.00 Fighting Finish. 4.30 Caxton.

THUNDERER
2.00 Fiesole. 2.30 Achiltibuie. 3.00 Greenheart. 3.30 Bronze Head. 4.00 Fighting Finish. 4.30 Caxton.

Brian Beel: 3.30 Glen Lochan.

GOING: FIRM (WATERING)

2.0 JOHN WADE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,925: 2m) (17 runners)

1 0242 FIESOLE 17 (CD,S) G Moore 5-11-10 .... M Dwyer
2 0040 FLEET FOOTED 17 (V,D,F,S) D Topley 8-11-7 .... C Grant
3 3560 NICE MANA 15 (D,F) P Blockley 6-11-5 ..... P Midgley (7)
4 -020 HAGLER 17 B Bousfield 8-11-2 .... A Merrigan
5 0006 DALMORE 7F (CD,F,G) F Watson 5-10-12 ..... R Garritty
6 0564 HEAVENLY HOOFER 13 (CD,F,G) W Storey 8-10-11 N Doughty
7 00U0 STARJESTIC 18 (F,G,S) Mrs P Barker 13-10-10 C Hawkins
8 26-3 COCK-A-DOODLE-DO 9 (D,G) J Hellens 5-10-9 A Orkney
9 30P0 STAND AT EASE 4F W Storey 6-10-7 .... K Doolan
10 020P DULVERTON 7F (B) J Parkes 4-10-2 .... N Smith (5)
11 6-60 GIANTS CASTLE 8 Mrs G Plowright 7-10-0 ... P A Farrell
12 00U3 SHIRYON 10 P Bevan 5-10-0 .... —
13 250P COUGAR 11F (B) Mrs S Austin 5-10-0 .... D Wilkinson
14 240 SHARP RUNNER 41 D Chapman 4-10-0 ... L Mullaney (7)
15 0-00 PLAY TO WIN 8 (B) F Gibson 5-10-0 .... M Leese (7)
16 060P BELLE ISLE BILL 8 (B) W Smith 6-10-0 ..... D Bentley (7)
17 PP0 BRIGARA 29 Miss C Caroe 4-10-0 .... A Stanford (7)

4-1 Cock-A-Doodle-Do, 9-2 Fiesole, 5-1 Dalmore, 6-1 Heavenly Hoofer, 8-1 Hagler, 12-1 Shiryon, Starjestic, 14-1 others.

2.30 TOP OF THE NORTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,085: 2m 4f) (7)

1 12-1 *ITALIAN TOUR 18 (CD,F,G) Mrs G Plowright 11-11-10 F Murtagh (7)*
2 2303 CHOCTAW 23 (CD,F,S) P Beaumont 7-11-5 Mrs A Farrell
3 4413 MIRAGE DANCER 7 (CF) Miss C Caroe 8-11-2 A Stanford (7)
4 3032 CHASERS' BAR 18 (CD,F) J Swiers 6-11-1 Mr S Swiers
5 4543 JANE'S JOY 18 (CD,F) Mrs G Reveley 6-11-0 .... P Niven
6 2213 ACHILTIBUIE 13 (BF,F) W Crawford 7-10-11 .. N Doughty
7 0P06 UPWELL 17 (CD,F) R Johnson 7-10-2 ..... Mr P Johnson

15-8 Chasers' Bar, 3-1 Jane's Joy, 9-2 Achiltibuie, 11-2 Choctaw, 8-1 Italian Tour, 12-1 Mirage Dancer, 20-1 Upwell.

3.0 GEORGE CARPENTER MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,152: 2m 4f) (3)

1 1U64 GREENHEART 30 (CD,F,G) W A Stephenson 8-12-0 C Grant
2 82P3 GENERAL CHANDOS 30 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 10-11-5 Mr J Bradburne
3 03-6 HODDAM BRIG 218 (F) D Scott 12-10-0. Miss J Thurlow

4-5 Greenheart, Evens General Chandos, 25-1 Hoddam Brig.

3.30 ARCHIBALDS GUY CUNARD NORTHERN CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,660: 3m 2f 160yd) (10)

1 5221 BRONZE HEAD 80 (CD,G,S) A Bones 13-13-0 N Wilson (7)
2 5-U4 THE LADY'S PARTNER 23 (B,F) S Pittendrigh 9-13-0 S Pittendrigh (7)
3 3/3- DEMI CHEVAL 384 Mrs A Lockwood 13-12-7 S Charlton (7)
4 23/ GLEN LOCHAN 874 (F,G,S) J Jemmeson 11-12-7 S Swiers
5 F-66 *HELLCATMUDWRESTLER 38 H Bell 10-12-7* M Atkinson (7)
6 INGLEBY FRANKIE Mrs S Frank 7-12-7 ..... N Tutty (5)
7 OLIVER H BANKS A Jackson 10-12-7 Miss T Jackson (7)
8 /20- MADAM CHEVALIER 586 (S) R Bewley 10-12-2 R Shiels (5)
9 6-50 NOT QUITE A LADY 38 C Holden 12-12-2 Mrs L Ward (7)
10 PP/ TUDORSOFF 739 Miss M Wilkin 8-12-2 ..... S Brisby (7)

7-2 Bronze Head, 4-1 Demi Cheval, 11-2 The Lady's Partner, 8-1 Madam Chevalier, 13-2 Ingleby Frankie.

4.0 SPRING BANK HOLIDAY NOVICE CHASE (£2,360: 2m 4f) (9)

1 2224 FIGHTING FINISH 18 (D,S) W A Stephenson 7-11-5 C Grant
2 F412 SONSIE MO 9 (C,F,G) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-5 Mr J Bradburne
3 4060 ALI-MAR-HEL 18 J Jefferson 7-11-0 ...... B Dalton (7)
4 P0PF BRAVE THE STORM 13 R Johnson 9-11-0 Mr P Johnson
5 040F GEEBEETEEVEE 30 Mrs S Austin 10-11-0 .. D Wilkinson
6 20F0 GOOD SEOUL 13 Miss C Caroe 7-11-0 ... A Stanford (7)
7 -P5P PARPANTO 74 N Waggott 10-11-0 ... Miss T Waggott (7)
8 U55F DISTANT CHERRY 16 D Lee 8-10-9 .... R Marley
9 202U LINGHAM MAGIC 18 (B) J Swiers 8-10-9 .. Mr S Swiers

15-8 Fighting Finish, 9-4 Sonsie Mo, 5-2 Lingham Magic, 9-1 Distant Cherry, 16-1 Good Seoul, 20-1 others.

4.30 ELWICK NOVICES HURDLE (£1,792: 2m) (13)

1 151 CAXTON 24 (CD,F,S) G Moore 4-11-3 .... M Dwyer
2 2832 EASTERN WHISPER 8 (D,G) Denys Smith 4-11-3 C Grant
3 /00 DONTPUSHME 24 B Ellison 10-11-2 .... B Dalton (7)
4 -4P0 LORDSHIP 8 M Barnes 8-11-2 .... P A Farrell
5 -P00 ROWDY 20 R Barr 5-11-2 .... A Heywood (7)
6 RUSTIC RAMBLE W A Stephenson 5-11-2 ... A Merrigan
7 0000 SAUCY TOUCH 13 (B) R Swiers 5-11-2 .... Mr S Swiers
8 0006 STRONG SILVER 13 R Johnson 6-11-2 .. Mr P Johnson
9 0600 DOLLY PRICES 8 W Smith 6-10-11 .... N Bentley (7)
10 P66 DUTCH BLUES 25F (B) Mrs S Austin 4-10-11 D Wilkinson
11 QUITE A MADAM R Woodhouse 7-10-11 .... R Marley
12 SP- RHYMING KATE 290F J Haynes 8-10-11. D J Moffatt (7)
13 0 STRONG VIEWS 15 W A Stephenson 4-10-11 Mr K Johnson

8-11 Caxton, 100-30 Eastern Whisper, 9-1 Strong Views, 10-1 Dutch Blues, 12-1 Rustic Ramble, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G Moore, 26 winners from 121 runners, 21.5%; Mrs G Reveley, 38 from 187, 20.3%; J Jefferson, 7 from 36, 19.4%; F Watson, 6 from 34, 17.6%; W A Stephenson, 83 from 480, 17.3%; Denys Smith, 44 from 279, 15.8%.

JOCKEYS: M Dwyer, 38 winners from 161 rides, 23.6%; C Grant, 67 from 336, 19.9%; R Garritty, 12 from 68, 17.6%; P Niven, 41 from 241, 17.0%; Mr N Wilson, 3 from 19, 15.8%; A Merrigan, 17 from 111, 15.3%.

TOWCESTER

MANDARIN
2.15 Beaujolais Nouveau. 2.45 Karnatak. 3.15 Jalingo. 3.45 In Hand. 4.15 Sunny Slave. 4.45 No Bonus.

THUNDERER
2.15 Electric Dancer. 2.45 Karnatak. 3.15 Sailor Boy. 3.45 Mr Sponge. 4.15 Sunny Slave. 4.45 Always Special.

Brian Beel: 3.45 Mr Sponge.

Michael Seely: 3.45 Mr Sponge.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.15 ERIC COX SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,895: 2m 5f 26yd) (12 runners)

1 3010 PRIX DU NORD 55 (F,G) K Wingrove 5-11-10 ...... —
2 4115 BEAUJOLAIS NOUVEAU 8 (V,S) M Channon 4-11-8 C Dempsey (7)
3 PP31 ELECTRIC DANCER 8 (F) C Horgan 5-11-8 (7ex) R Beggan
4 3P6 AUTONOMOUS 18 W Wilson 6-11-6 ...... J McLaughlin
5 3350 TRIBAL MASCOT 10 (F) D Gandolfo 6-11-4 .... B Powell
6 00P4 BOHEA DESTROYER 55 C Broad 6-11-3 ...... A Carroll
7 3100 THEY ALL FORGOT ME 18 (D,F,G) T Casey 4-11-2 D Bridgwater (5)
8 55PF SANAWI 7 (F) A James 4-10-12 .... E Tierney (7)
9 0040 DRAGONS NEST 8 (B) T Casey 4-10-10.. J McCarthy (7)
10 0583 WATERMEAD 8 D Nicholson 6-10-7 .... R Dunwoody
11 66U2 NET CALL 13 N Smith 5-10-6 .... N Williams (7)
12 0FP3 BADGERS GIFT 13 (B) T Caldwell 5-10-5 Peter Caldwell

15-8 Electric Dancer, 5-1 Badgers Gift, 6-1 Autonomous, Watermead, 7-1 Net Call, 8-1 Beaujolais Nouveau, 10-1 others.

2.45 BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH HANDICAP CHASE (£3,152: 2m 50yd) (3)

1 UP3F OUTLAW 6 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) J Edwards 12-11-10 N Williamson
2 2331 KARNATAK 10 (CD,F) K Bridgwater 10-11-7 (7ex) D Bridgwater (5)
3 P005 RIVA'S TOUCH 16 (D,F,G) Mrs A King 8-10-2 R Dunwoody

4-7 Karnatak, 2-1 Outlaw, 10-1 Riva's Touch.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Jimmy Fitzgerald, 3 winners from 11 runners, 27.3%; N Henderson, 25 from 100, 25.0%; O Brennan, 10 from 42, 23.8%; M Pipe, 11 from 51, 21.6%; T Casey, 16 from 123, 13.0%; D Murray Smith, 3 from 25, 12.0%.

JOCKEYS: M Brennan, 8 winners from 43 rides, 18.6%; R Beggan, 11 from 71, 15.5%; C Llewellyn, 11 from 89, 12.4%; R Dunwoody, 22 from 183, 12.0%; D Skyrme, 3 from 25, 12.0%; B Powell, 7 from 62, 11.3%.

3.15 PETERBOROUGH DIOCESE 450th ANNIVERSARY NOVICES HURDLE (£1,895: 2m) (14)

1 6311 DON JACOBO 10 (CD,F,G) T Casey 6-11-12 ... M Lynch
2 1224 EMERALD GEM 34 (S) O Brennan 5-11-5 .... M Brennan
3 F1 JALINGO 79 (D,S) P Makin 4-11-0 .... R Guest
4 FIGARO 60F (B) J Czerpak 6-10-12 ...... M Jennings (7)
5 2453 HICKELTON LAD 10 (D,G) D Williams 7-10-12. B Powell
6 6600 LUMUMBA DAYS 10 Mrs I McKie 5-10-12 ..... J Duggan
7 -035 SAILOR BOY 13F R Akehurst 5-10-12 ..... R Dunwoody
8 54 ANGELICA PARK 10 J Wharton 5-10-7 .... S J O'Neill
9 0625 CARDS AND KISSES 127 (D,F) C Cyzer 5-10-7 T Grantham
10 0400 HI BOOTS 10 (B) P Jones 8-10-7 . *Heather Mumford (7)*
11 ILEWIN 98F J Wharton 4-10-7 .... —
12 0 ROYAL RUPERT 25F R Juckes 4-10-7 ..... A Juckes (5)
13 00 MOREIRWEN 18 J O'Donoghue 4-10-2 ...... M Kinane
14 PPPP MYSTICAL LADY 11F M Muggeridge 4-10-2 ..... W Irvine

9-4 Sailor Boy, 4-1 Jalingo, 11-2 Don Jacobo, 6-1 Angelica Park, Emerald Gem, 8-1 Hickleton Lad, 10-1 others.

3.45 TIMES CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER CHASE (Final: amateurs: £1,843: 3m 190yd) (9)

RUNNERS & RIDERS - SEE PAGE 38

4.15 ARCHDEACON SPONNE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,392: 3m 190yd) (9)

1 4-66 SUNNY SLAVE 43 (CD,BF,G,S) N Henderson 10-11-10 R Dunwoody
2 1-3U TOPHATTER 17 (D,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-11-9 D Byrne
3 UP1P WILDWOOD 20 (D,F,S) R Curtis 11-11-0 ...... D Morris
4 P503 MOUNT OLIVER 18 (B,D,F,G,S) R Dickin 13-10-13 Martin Jones (3)
5 P404 FRIENDLY HENRY 18 (B,D,S) J Fox 11-10-13. S Fox (7)
6 3853 GOODMAN POINT 9 (B,F,G,S) P Dalton 9-10-13 J O'Hanlon (7)
7 6021 SMITHY BEAR 9 (D,F,S) William Price 9-10-12 (7ex) P Barnard (3)
8 065P WIGGBURN 16 (F,G,S) Mrs A Hewitt 12-10-10 S J O'Neill
9 4PU3 TOUKSHAD 18 (D,F) R O'Sullivan 8-10-8 ...... M Kinane

9-4 Sunny Slave, 3-1 Smithy Bear, 5-1 Goodman Point, 6-1 Toukshad, 7-1 Mount Oliver, 10-1 Friendly Henry, 12-1 others.

4.45 BISHOP OF BRIXWORTH HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,520: 2m) (12)

1 4002 ARSONIST 15 (CD,F) A Blackmore 6-11-10 R Dunwoody
2 4313 NO BONUS 28 (CD,F) D Murray Smith 7-11-5 P Verling (5)
3 B123 PLATONIC AFFAIR 10 (C,D,F,G,S) D Wilson 10-11-1 C Llewellyn
4 /05 ALWAYS SPECIAL 98 (B,F) M Pipe 7-11-0 ...... —
5 23FP LOCHERRE 27 (D,S) O Brennan 7-10-13 ..... M Brennan
6 2430 CUT A CAPER 9 (D,F,G,S) R O'Sullivan 9-10-12 D O'Sullivan (5)
7 00P0 NORTHERN LION 16 (G) R Thompson 8-10-12 . A Webb
8 5301 LAVA FALLS 15 (CD,F) M Banks 5-10-12 ..... D Skyrme
9 -003 MAN OF FUN 14 (V,D,F) Mrs A King 6-10-6 ..... S Earle
10 5236 LASTING MEMORY 14 (D,F) R Frost 5-10-4 ..... J Frost
11 -005 GLENSTAL ABBEY 22 (B,D,F) R Akehurst 5-10-0 L Harvey
12 FP05 IMMORTAL IRISH 83F (D,F) D Gandolfo 6-10-0 B Powell

7-2 No Bonus, 4-1 Lava Falls, 9-2 Arsonist, 5-1 Always Special, 6-1 Platonic Affair, 8-1 Lasting Memory, 12-1 others.

Blinkered first time

HAYDOCK PARK: 4.30 Lake Mistassiu, Heaven-Liegh-Grey.
PONTEFRACT: 6.45 Pop To Stans. 7.35 Killinghall.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Goodwood

Going: good to firm

2.10 (6f) 1, Stately March (D Holland, 12-1). 2, Dokkha Oyston (15-8 fav); 3, Unveiled (7-2). 12 ran. NR: Olifantsfontein. ½l, 3½l. R Stubbs. Tote: £13.30; £2.90, £1.20, £1.50 DF: £12.40. CSF £33.48. 1min 12.20sec.

2.40 (1m 4f) 1, Deposki (W R Swinburn, 5-4 fav); 2, Quick Ransom (6-1); 3, Searcy (14-1). 6 ran. Hd, 4l. M Stoute. Tote: £2.00; £1.20, £2.70. DF: £6.30. CSF: £8.23. 2min 40.00sec.

3.10 (5f) 1, Robins Arrow (B Raymond, 10-1); 2, Annezig (9-1); 3, Tino Tere (5-2). Magic Ring 4-7 fav. 4 ran. 5l, nk. N Tinkler. Tote: £8.10. DF. £17.00. CSF: £58.02. 59.55sec. Magic Ring finished first, but after a stewards' enquiry was disqualified and placed last.

3.40 (1m 2f) 1, Northern Conqueror (D Holland, 10-1); 2, Bid For Elegance (4-1 fav); 3, Mamalama (10-1). 19 ran. Nk, 5l. T Naughton. Tote: £13.50; £3.20, £1.60, £2.40. DF: £14.20. CSF: £49.23. 2min 09.83sec.

4.10 (7f) 1, The Can Can Man (R P Elliott, 5-1); 2, Qualitair Dream (14-1); 3, Masnun (11-2). ALSO RAN: Ain'tlifelikethat 9-4 fav. 7 ran. 3l, ¾l. M Johnston. Tote: £5.70; £2.40. £5.20. DF: £22.20. CSF: £54.93. 1min 26.04sec.

4.45 (1m 1f) 1, Flashfoot (Pat Eddery, 7-2); 2, Barkerville (4-5 fav); 3, Mara Askari (7-1). 10 ran. 3l, 7l. I Balding. Tote: £4.50; £1.30, £1.20, £2.10. DF: £2.60. CSF: £6.86. 1min 54.51sec.

5.20 (5f) 1, Aughfad (S D Williams, 12-1); 2, Very Dicey (16-1); 3, Terrhars (16-1). Sla Captain 4-1 fav. 14 ran. ½l, sh hd. T Casey. Tote: £15.30; £3.30, £6.20, £4.40. DF: £154.60. CSF: £181.83. Tricast: £2813.16. 58.59sec.

Jackpot: Not won Placepot: £630.90

Catterick Bridge

Going: good to firm

2.0 (5f) 1, Another Episode (J Carroll, 9-1); 2, Molten Copper (8-11 fav); 3, Syke Lane (4-1). 4 ran. 12l, 1½l. J Berry. Tote: £4.20. DF: £3.40. CSF: £15.70.

2.30 (1m 5f 180yd) 1, Tongadin (J Fortune, 9-2), 2, Frescobaldo (4-1); 3, Rather Gorgeous (8-1). Pipistrelle 2-1 fav. 10 ran. ½l, 3l. M O'Neill. Tote: £5.30; £1.50, £2.10, £1.80. DF: £12.70. CSF: £21.11. Tricast: £124.78.

3.0 (1m 4f 40yds) 1, Charlie's Darling (R Price, 16-1); 2, Smiles Ahead (4-1); 3, Commanche Sioux (8-1). Our Slimbridge 9-4 fav. 13 ran. 1½l, ½l. J Czerpak. Tote: £18.00; £5.80, £1.10, £2.50. DF: £38.80. CSF: £79.53.

3.30 (7f) 1, Marcroft (S Perks, 4-1); 2, Stelby (10-1); 3, Kummel King (12-1). Cool Enough 7-2 fav. 15 ran. ½l, ¾l. R Hollinshead. Tote: £5.40; £1.90, £4.70, £3.60. DF: £30.40. CSF: £41.13. Tricast: £412.38. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

4.0 (7f) 1, Floralia (F Norton, 6-1); 2, Burslems Joy (4-5 fav); 3, Top Shereak (9-4). 6 ran. 3l, 5l. G Wragg. Tote: £6.30: £2.30, £1.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £10.85.

4.30 (5f) 1, Baliasecret (D Meredith, 11-4); 2, Sweetings Pearl (16-1); 3, Snowgirl (9-4 fav). 8 ran. Sh hd, ½l. R Dickin. Tote: £4.60; £2.00, £4.90, £1.10. DF: £52.90. CSF £35.75; Tricast: £92.19. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

Placepot: £225.00

BETTER CALL William HILL
RAPID RACELINE
ALL RESULTS - FAST
0898-168-168
Individual Courses 0898 168+

HAYDOCK PARK	101	201	301
TOWCESTER	102	202	302
SEDGEFIELD	103	203	303
PONTEFRACT	104	204	304
IRISH	–	149	–
GREYHOUNDS	122	222	–

Fowler's fall enhances hopes of win for Surrey

By JOHN WOODCOCK

THE OVAL: Lancashire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 92 runs behind Surrey

LANCASHIRE'S chances of winning this match were virtually eliminated yesterday when Surrey took a first innings lead of 107. As for a Surrey victory, that became a lot more likely in the last four overs when first Fowler and then Austin, sent in as a rather superior nightwatchman, were caught at slip.

As on the first day the best cricket had been played before lunch. There was a time after tea when it seemed to have slipped Surrey's mind that it is not a four-day match. But those two late wickets made up for that, and the ball is turning — six of Surrey wickets fell to spin — and the pitch still has something to offer the faster bowlers.

It is certainly a much better match than the one which the two sides had here last year when Surrey declared at 707 for nine and Lancashire replied with 863.

Until Stewart was caught at second slip yesterday morning, 80 minutes after the start, Surrey showed mid-summer form with the bat. With some fine cover drives Alikhan, head well over the ball, belied his reputation as a stonewaller, while Stewart played as he used to in the days before he had a Test career to worry about.

Their eye for the short single also had much to do with 67 runs coming in the first hour.

Then Stewart, pushing forward at Watkinson, was caught at second slip. The ball before he had swung over the short boundary on the Harleyford Road side. After Stewart was gone, Ward kept Surrey's innings moving, helped briefly by Greig; but it is one of those pitches with just enough in it to keep the balance between bat and ball. After lunch Wasim Akram at one end and Yates, with off breaks from the other, found bowling well worthwhile.

Yates, in fact, was kept at it all the afternoon. Although there was no excuse for his six no-balls, and his line led to his having five, sometimes six, men on the leg side, he still made a good impression. There is obviously plenty of cricket there.

By tea Wasim Akram had gone off, not imagining that he was playing for Pakistan, but with a bruised toe. He had earlier had Greig caught at the wicket. Ward had been caught at silly point off bat and pad, and Feltham bowled, both looking to attack Yates but left short of the pitch of the ball.

Medlycott, though, made sure that Surrey got their full batting points, playing very respectably, his confidence boosted no doubt by a hundred at Fenner's last Monday. With Allott also out of action, with a strained stomach, it took Watkinson, switching to off breaks, to get rid of Medlycott, caught at cover point off a well-hit drive.

After that Surrey were much better off bowling or swinging their bats, a fact which took a surprisingly long time to dawn on them.

Cowdrey to the rescue for Kent

By JACK BAILEY

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 62 runs ahead of Kent

GRAHAM Cowdrey came to Kent's rescue yesterday after they had appeared to be disappearing quietly from view. His first century of the season arrived at a particularly opportune time. For what with a groin injury to Hinks causing a prolonged absence after his progress to 58 had become increasingly painful, and then Robinson's belated trust in the spin of Hemmings and Afford beginning to pay off, it seemed certain that Notts would be poised to leave them a formidable fourth innings task.

As it was, Cowdrey's undefeated 109 and a little help from his friends, enabled Benson to declare only 45 runs behind and leave Notts with half-an-hour to negotiate. From the second ball, Broad's slash at Merrick (it had been all to easy for Broad in the first innings) resulted in a catch to Marsh and Kent, despite growing absenteeism and a sizeable injury list, are not yet done.

All but Cowdrey and Fleming, in a breezy little knock, found the way weary and the going hard. Taylor has been out of sorts this season; and once Penn and Hinks had been separated — almost before anyone could make a joke about the juxtaposition of the two names — it began to show. But Taylor's unorthodox method survives on grit and there was plenty of that on display as he and Hinks nudged Kent along to 97 for two at lunch and Taylor for 20 more overs after Hinks had failed to reappear.

Nor did Cowdrey find the going easy to begin with. He shifted up a gear once Taylor had been caught at short extra after a stay of three hours. The advent of Fleming had much to do with it; so, perhaps, did the denial of a bat-onto-boot catch from Cowdrey off Hemmings when he had made 45 and all Notts went up. Fleming put the Notts attack under real duress for the first time in his 40 from 48 balls and Cowdrey went with him. His three-and-a-half-hour innings included two pulled sixes and 15 fours.

Hundred at home: Mike Gatting put hamstring trouble behind him with a century

Essex go slow after lunch

By IVO TENNANT

CHELMSFORD (second day of three): Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 52 runs behind Essex

AFTER much positive cricket on the first day, and indeed in the first session yesterday, Essex for reasons of their own became tardy in the extreme. The pitch was true, the weather ideal, their approach curious. Given an opportunity to build a healthy lead in the afternoon, they did not take it.

This approach was all the more unexpected since Hussain had taken the attack to Warwickshire's bowlers with some ferocity. His half century, which contained several cracking drives, came to an end in the last over before lunch. So, too, did the entertainment.

Between lunch and tea, when Essex should have been in the ascendancy, they managed 99 runs. This cost them a final batting point and conceivably also the match. What was more, Donald in this period, was given but two overs.

In his first six-over spell, at the start of the day, the openers' ambitions had, understandably, not extended beyond keeping him out. Free of niggling injuries, Donald is reckoned now to be bowling quicker than ever. The wicketkeeper was standing not far short of halfway back to the boundary.

Donald's pace was too much for Shahid, who was trying to turn him to leg, and Prichard, fishing outside off stump.

The change bowlers were a different proposition. Salim Malik made 21 in no time at all before dollying up a catch to Munton, the bowler, and Hussain drew on this example. He and Stephenson added 77 in 23 overs. For as long as Hussain was hammering anything overpitched through mid-wicket or over the in-field, his partner's foil was exemplorary.

Alas for Essex, Reeve slipped one through Hussain's forward defence in the last over before lunch. His half century off 76 balls, including eight fours, was an affirmation of his talent.

It was different thereafter. Lewis, century maker in his one previous championship innings, now spent 20 minutes getting off the mark. Stephenson, having grafted commendably, found he could not raise his game.

When Munton eventually had him caught at the wicket, an innings of 79 had lasted 262 minutes.

Middlesex pair punish bowlers

By RICHARD STREETON

HOVE (second day of three): Sussex, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Middlesex

BOWLING on this square has become the cricket equivalent of a sentence in the salt mines. By the time Middlesex declared yesterday, Ian Hutchinson and Gatting having made hundreds, only seven wickets had fallen.

Gatting declared, 40 runs behind, as soon as Middlesex secured maximum batting points, and it will be interesting to see what sort of a target Sussex leave them today.

A back injury prevented Smith from opening when Sussex went in again, with 23 overs left, and Hall and Lenham continued the bat's dominance.

Gatting and Hutchinson added 175 in 42 overs and took maximum advantage against a Sussex attack which tended to pitch too short. A flawless pitch always made it heartbreaking work, however. Pigott was the steadiest and gained the late consolation of Brown's wicket.

The second-wicket pair came together after Roseberry, who was never in proper touch, lifted a catch to deep square leg. At one stage, play was threatened by bad light but nothing disturbed Hutchinson's composure.

Hutchinson, aged 26, is a relatively late developer, but would have established a regular place by now if he played for a weaker county. He made three fleeting appearances in 1988 before scoring three hundreds in ten matches in 1989. Last season, when Middlesex fielded an unchanged first five, his summer was disrupted by injuries. Hutchinson obtained most of his 22 fours with stylish off drives. He was leg-before to Bunting, trying to turn a ball to the leg side.

Gatting opened with 11 forceful fours in his first fifty and finished with 19. In three hours and 40 minutes he never shirked sharp singles, to confirm that last weekend's hamstring problem was behind him.

POINT-TO-POINT

Mr Sponge favoured by demanding track

By BRIAN BEEL

MR SPONGE may have the edge in a competitive race for the fifth running of *The Times* Championship final at Towcester this afternoon.

When second at Kingston Blount in late April, Jonathon Trice-Rolph's mount finished seven lengths in front of Denstone Wanderer, who went on to win a weak hunter chase at Folkestone and in the process incur a 4lb penalty. Mr Sponge then won his next two races, including one at Ashorne, an undulating right-handed track with an uphill finish, similar to Towcester's testing run in.

Warleggan's win at Worcester on Wednesday, his second in four days, highlights the chance of In Hand. Running for the first time over regulation fences, at Bangor, In Hand was headed at the last by Warleggan but ran on to take second and had some useful horses behind.

Previously, however, In Hand was third at Eaton Hall, well beaten by the winner, Sandstone Arch, who pulled up in the Bangor race after looking the probable winner three fences out.

In a point-to-point Sandstone Arch would be expected to beat In Hand and most of the others here. But he has shown no liking for hunter chasing, failing to finish in three attempts.

THE TIMES
Point-to-point
Championship

Last time out at Llantarnam, Gunmetal Boy produced a strong run to be beaten only a short head by Willy Wagtail. Admittedly he was in receipt of 7lb but on his next appearance Willy Wagtail easily won a hunter chase at Warwick by 12 lengths.

When first in a three-runner contest against modest opposition at Milborne St Andrew last time, Strong Bond proved only that he could act on firm going. Previously he had followed up his Kingweston win in the qualifier with a creditable third at Badbury Rings.

On his Alpraham run in mid-April, Skywardbound is well held by In Hand and though second in his next two outings the form does not look good enough to suggest success here. Similarly, Linger At Sea, the representative from the south east, will need to show a significant improvement to the seconds he has achieved on his last two outings in minor events.

The only mare in the race, Goodbye Roscoe, is also the youngest and, though steadily making progress, she seems unlikely to make much of an impact against the opposition here.

With no more than about 6lb separating the top half-dozen runners, and most being inexperienced over the stiffer fences, it would be unwise to support any horse at odds of less than 4-1. My three against the field are Mr Sponge, In Hand and Gunmetal Boy and they are preferred in that order.

☐ At Sedgefield today the Archibalds Guy Cunard Northern Point-to-Point Championship will also be decided. Glen Lochan is selected to win from Bronze Head.

CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL LINE-UP

3.45 TIMES CHAMPIONSHIP HUNTER CHASE
(Final: amateurs: £1,843: 3m 190yd) (9 runners)

1	334311	DENSTONE WANDERER 10 (F) (Miss P Sutton) Miss P Sutton 9-12-0 *(Dark green & red check, red sleeves, green armlets)*	C Coyne (7)	95
2	231F12	GUNMETAL BOY 13 (D Williams) D Williams 7-12-0 *(Black & yellow quartered, yellow sleeves)*	T Rooney (7)	96
3	2321132	IN HAND 6 (Mrs J Webster) Mrs J Webster 11-12-0 *(Black, yellow armlets, yellow cap)*	A Griffith (7)	98
4	4/1-2122	LINGER AT SEA 18 (Mrs N Hacking) Mrs N Hacking 9-12-0 *(Light blue, dark blue hoops, light blue sleeves, dark blue seems, quartered cap)*	P Hacking (3)	93
5	12-3211	MR SPONGE 13 (B Topple) B Topple 10-12-0 *(Yellow, dark green epaulets & sleeves, green & yellow quartered cap)*	J Trice-Rolph (7)	97
6	UF111P	SANDSTONE ARCH 6 (P Rothery) P Rothery 8-12-0 *(Dark blue, light blue striped sleeves, check cap)*	C Barlow (7) ●	99
7	0/B2322	SKYWARDBOUND 13 (D Greenwood) D Greenwood 9-12-0 *(Red, white triple diamond & armlets, diamonds on cap)*	R Ford (7)	93
8	12/P-131	STRONG BOND 27 (Mrs M Cooke) Mrs M Cooke 10-12-0 *(Royal blue, white stars & armlets, quartered cap)*	N Mitchell (7)	95
9	42331U	GOODBYE ROSCOE 13 (Miss J Eddy) Miss J Eddy 6-11-9 *(Black & light blue quartered, Hlaved sleeves & black cap)*	Mrs P Nash (7)	91

● Line under form figure denotes hunter chase; remainder is point-to-point form

BETTING: 4-1 Sandstone Arch, 9-2 In Hand, 5-1 Mr Sponge, 13-2 Gun Metal Boy, Strong Bond, 8-1 Denstone Wanderer, 14-1 Skywardbound, Linger At Sea, 25-1 Goodbye Roscoe.

1990: EASTERN CHANT 8-11-7 C Stockton (7-4 fav) Miss I Dady 10 ran

Form guide to the nine contenders

DENSTONE WANDERER

May 14, Folkestone, firm: led from 9th to beat Discain Boy 4l (2m 4f, 7 ran).

May 6, Tweseldown, good. Made all to beat Arctic Rose 3l (3m, 6 ran)

April 27, Kingston Blount, firm: weakened approaching last when beaten 5l and 7l, by Wild Illusion and Mr Sponge.

GUNMETAL BOY

May 11, Llantarnam, good to firm: strong run on the flat when beaten short head by Willy Wagtail (gave 7lb) (3m, 6 ran).

April 27, St Mary Hill, good: just held when beaten ½l by Radio Cue (later disqualified) (3m, 14 ran).

April 13, St Hilary, good to firm: fell first in race won by Channel Pastime (3m, 17 ran).

IN HAND

May 18, Bangor, good to firm: headed last when 4l 2nd to Warleggan (3m 14 ran).

April 27, Eaton Hall, firm. No extra from three out when 10l 3rd to Sandstone Arch (3m, 8 ran).

April 13, Alpraham, good to firm: stayed on well when beating Round The Wrekin by 3l, with Skywardbound 6l away 3rd (3m, 10 ran).

LINGER AT SEA

May 6, Aldington, good. No extra run-in when 3l 2nd to Fifty Bucks (gave 3lbs) (3m, 8 ran).

April 20, Heathfield, good: Ran on gamely ½l 2nd to Speedy Boy (gave 6lbs) (3m, 8 ran).

April 1, Aldington, good to firm: Left clear two out when beating Rusty Rails 15l (3m, 7 ran).

MR SPONGE

May 11, Kingston Blount, firm: Left clear two out when beating Light Song 12l (3m, 5 ran).

May 6, Ashorne, good: Ran on strongly when beating Red Furlong 6l (3m, 11 ran).

April 27, Kingston Blount, firm: Stayed on well when 5l 2nd to Wild Illusion, with Denston Warrior 7l 3rd (3m, 9 ran).

SANDSTONE ARCH

May 18, Bangor, good to firm: Led till weakened quickly and pulled up two out in race won by Warleggan (3m, 14 ran).

May 6, Eyton-on-Severn, good: Ran on well when beating Tytherington 15l (3m, 7 ran).

April 27, Eaton Hall, firm: ran on well when beating Trematon 3l (3m, 8 ran).

SKYWARDBOUND

May 11, Astatrie, firm: no extra run-in when 3l 2nd to Dolitino (3m, 11 ran).

May 4, Gisburn, good to firm: ran on when 3l 2nd to Happy Higgins (3m, 13 ran).

April 13, Alpraham, good to firm. stayed on when 9l 3rd to In Hand (3m, 10 ran).

STRONG BOND

April 27, Milborne St Andrew, firm. drew clear to beat Right Card 20l (3m, 3 ran)

April 13, Badbury Ring, good to firm: no extra on run-in when 3rd to Connale by 5½l (3m, 8 ran)

April 6, King Western, good: ran on well when beating Stans Joy by 3l (3m, 11 ran).

GOODBYE ROSCOE

May 11, Llantarnam, good to firm. unseated rider at the second in race won by Dewliner (3m, 9 ran).

April 27, St Mary Hill, good: ran on when beating Clover Express 1l (3m, 10 ran).

April 13, St Hilary, good to firm. some late progress when distance 3rd to Harwall Queen (3m, 12 ran).

Pupil aiming to be master

By CHRISTOPHER GOULDING

MR SPONGE, one of the nine challengers for *The Times* Championship final at Towcester today, was purchased as a schoolmaster but quickly adopted the attitude of a wayward pupil rather than that of a sedate tutor.

"Barry Topple, his owner, bought Mr Sponge for his son, Christopher, to ride but he did not turn out to be suitable," Jonathan Trice-Rolph, who trains and will ride the wily little grey today, said.

"There is nothing nasty about the horse. But he can take rather a strong hold, especially for a novice rider."

Clearly Trice-Rolph has found where the controls are since the impetuous 10-year-old gelding joined his livery yard in the Cotswolds, where the silence is interrupted only by the bleating of a spring lamb.

Trice-Rolph, formerly with the King's Troop, cut his teeth the hard way in point-to-points. After five years' race riding and 17 seconds his persistence was rewarded.

"My lucky break came with Sib when he won a 20-runner race," Trice-Rolph said. "His owner, Terry Greathead, had a good bet at 33-1. There was some party afterwards."

Now the farmer's son is regarded as the best amateur rider on the south Midlands circuit. Further success has been gained at Cheltenham and Sandown.

"Point-to-pointing is a tremendous sport without too many rules. You can turn up with your horse and if the conditions are right you run, if not it does not matter. The sport is at a high standard now that it is so expensive to have a horse professionally trained.

Trice-Rolph: rides Mr Sponge in *Times* final

"Mr Sponge was Barry's first venture into point-to-pointing," Trice-Rolph, aged 33, continued. "Last year, in his first season for Barry, he won once and was placed on his other two outings. Now he has won three races and finished in the frame in all his seven races.

"After we finished second at Kingston Blount last month, where he qualified for *The Times* race, it was decided to go for the final," his jockey went on. "My main concern at Towcester will be the fences. Mr Sponge can be in too much of a hurry and get in rather close. I hope to drop him out off the pace and then see what we can do."

Like his namesake, Mr Sponge, the character immortalised by the writer R S Surtees as the man whose principal interests were fox and fortune hunting, the little dapple grey can, with luck, can claim his own slice of prosperity.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Surrey v Lancs

THE OVAL: Lancashire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 92 runs behind Surrey

LANCASHIRE: First Innings 254 (G Fowler 113, M Watkinson 55, Waqar Younis 5 for 57)

Second Innings

G Fowler c Stewart b Younis	5
G D Mendis not out	8
I D Austin c Stewart b M P Bicknell	0
N J Speak not out	2
Total (2 wkts)	15

G D Lloyd, M Watkinson, Wasim Akram, †W K Hegg, *D P Hughes, G Yates and P J W Allott to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-7.

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell lbw b Allott	7
R I Alikhan c Hughes b Yates	67
A J Stewart c Hughes b Watkinson	62
D M Ward c Speak b Yates	43
*I A Greig c Hegg b Akram	21
K T Medlycott c Mendis b Watkinson	68
M A Feltham b Yates	20
†N F Sargeant b Austin	10
M P Bicknell c Lloyd b Hughes	30
J Boiling lbw b Watkinson	1
Waqar Younis not out	9
Extras (b 5, lb 4, nb16)	25
Total	361

Score after 100 overs: 316-7.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-122, 3-167, 4-203, 5-220, 6-285, 7-293, 8-325, 9-327.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 29-9-84-1; Allott 13-5-35-1; Watkinson 25-4-82-3; Austin 13-2-40-1; Yates 25-6-95-3; Hughes 8-3-18-1.

Bonus points: Surrey 8, Lancashire 6.

Umpires: R Palmer and A G T Whitehead.

Essex v Warwicks

CHELMSFORD: Warwickshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 52 runs behind Essex

WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 237 (D P Ostler 94; N A Foster 5 for 80)

Second Innings

Asif Din not out	7
A J Moles c Garnham b Foster	6
T A Munton not out	0
Extras (b 4, w 1)	5
Total	18

*T A Lloyd, P A Smith, D A Reeve, D P Ostler, †K J Piper, G C Small, A R K Pierson, A A Donald to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-8.

ESSEX: First Innings

J P Stephenson c Piper b Munton	79
N Shahid c and b Donald	11
P J Prichard c Piper b Donald	5
Salim Malik c and b Munton	21
N Hussain b Reeve	55
J J B Lewis lbw b Pierson	48
†M A Garnham not out	46
*N A Foster c Asif Din b Pierson	2
T D Topley c Piper b Donald	4
S J W Andrew c Reeve b Pierson	7
Extras (b 8, lb 13, w 1, nb 7)	29
Total (9 wkts dec)	307

Score after 100 overs: 288-7.

J H Childs did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-41, 3-66, 4-143, 5-210, 6-281, 7-287, 8-300, 9-307

BOWLING: Donald 19-3-52-3; Munton 24-6-75-2; Small 17-5-34-0; Reeve 25-6-58-1, Pierson 14-1-45-3; Smith 8-0-22-0

Bonus points: Essex 7, Warwickshire 5.

Umpires: D O Oslear and N T Plews.

Yorks v Gloucs

SHEFFIELD: Gloucestershire, with seven first-innings wickets in hand, are 176 runs behind Yorkshire

YORKSHIRE: First Innings

*M D Moxon c Wright b Athey	65
A A Metcalfe b Smith	15
D Byas c Hodgson b Alleyne	87
†R J Blakey lbw b Babington	55
P E Robinson c Gilbert b Babington	31
S A Kellett lbw b Gilbert	26
P W Jarvis not out	37
D Gough c Babington b Gilbert	26
Extras (b 14, lb 13, w 1, nb 18)	46
Total (7 wkts dec)	388

Score after 100 overs: 278-4.

P J Hartley, J D Batty and M A Robinson did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-144, 3-240, 4-272, 5-297, 6-326, 7-388.

BOWLING: Gilbert 30-6-80-2; Babington 39-3-121-2; Smith 19-2-55-1; Lloyds 20-6-46-0; Alleyne 12-0-39-1; Athey 7-1-18-1.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE: First Innings

G D Hodgson c Blakey b Batty	54
R J Scott c Gough b Jarvis	17
*A J Wright not out	72
C W J Athey lbw b Gough	12
M W Alleyne not out	35
Extras (b 17, lb 2, w 1, nb 2)	22
Total (3 wkts, 91 overs)	212

J J E Hardy, J W Lloyds, †R C J Williams, D R Gilbert, M A Smith and A M Babington to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-124, 3-144

Bonus points: Yorkshire 4, Gloucestershire 3.

Umpires: R C Tolchard and P B Wight.

Sussex v Middlesex

HOVE: Sussex, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Middlesex

SUSSEX: First Innings 340 for 4 dec (A P Wells 137, D M Smith 126)

Second Innings

N J Lenham not out	25
J W Hall not out	20
Extras (lb 2, nb 3)	5
Total (no wkt)	50

D M Smith, A P Wells, M P Speight, †P Moores, A I C Dodemaide, A C S Pigott, I D K Salisbury, B T P Donelan and R A Bunting to bat.

MIDDLESEX: First Innings

I J F Hutchinson lbw b Bunting	125
M A Roseberry c A P Wells b Dodemaide	25
*M W Gatting not out	117
K R Brown lbw b Pigott	28
M Keech not out	0
Extras (b 2, nb 3)	5
Total (3 wkts dec, 91.1 overs)	300

†P R Downton, J E Emburey, N F Williams, N G Cowans, P C R Tufnell and R M Ellcock did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-67, 2-242, 3-298.

BOWLING: Pigott 23-11-48-1; Dodemaide 19-3-63-1; Bunting 18-2-60-1; Salisbury 12-1-62-0; Donelan 16.1-5-54-0; Lenham 3-0-11-0.

Bonus points: Sussex 5, Middlesex 5.

Umpires: J W Holder and B Hassan.

Derbys v Somerset

DERBY: Derbyshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 24 runs behind Somerset

SOMERSET: First Innings 373 for 7 dec (R J Harden 136, A N Hayhurst 116)

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings

†P D Bowler lbw b MacLeay	13
J E Morris c Tavaré b MacLeay	43
T J G O'Gorman c Tavaré b Lefebvre	23
M Azharuddin b Lefebvre	10
T J Adams c Lefebvre b Rose	15
*K J Barnett c Rose b Lefebvre	1
†K M Krikken not out	46
A E Warner lbw b Mallender	31
I Folley lbw b Mallender	0
M Jean-Jacques b MacLeay	28
O H Mortensen c Burns b Mallender	1
Extras (lb 5, nb 6)	11
Total (66.3 overs)	222

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-65, 3-90, 4-105, 5-107, 6-113, 7-156, 8-156, 9-221.

BOWLING. Mallender 17.3-3-52-3, Rose 11-1-43-1; MacLeay 12-2-40-3; Lefebvre 15-5-51-3; Graveney 11-3-31-0.

Second Innings

†P D Bowler c Harden b Graveney	59
J E Morris not out	57
T J G O'Gorman lbw b Rosebuck	7
I Folley not out	0
Extras (b 2, lb 1, nb 1)	4
Total (2 wkts)	127

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-110, 2-123.

Bonus points: Derbyshire 4, Somerset 7.

Umpires: B Dudleston and D R Shepherd.

Notts v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 62 runs ahead of Kent

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 345 for 6 dec (B C Broad 166, R T Robinson 85)

Second Innings

B C Broad c Marsh b Merrick	0
P R Pollard not out	9
*R T Robinson not out	8
Total (1 wkt)	17

D W Randall, P Johnson, F D Stephenson, †B N French, E E Hemmings, K E Cooper, R A Pick and J A Afford to bat.

FALL OF WICKET: 1-0.

KENT: First Innings

S G Hinks not out	61
*M R Benson lbw b Pick	0
C Penn c sub b Cooper	13
N R Taylor c Broad b Afford	45
G R Cowdrey not out	109
M V Fleming c Pollard b Hemmings	40
N J Llong c French b Hemmings	0
R M Ellison run out	5
†S A Marsh lbw b Hemmings	10
T A Merrick c Broad b Hemmings	4
Extras (b 4, lb 2, w 1, nb 6)	13
Total (8 wkts dec)	300

Score after 100 overs: 276-8

A P Igglesden did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-3, 2-30, 3-144, 4-215, 5-215, 6-223, 7-240, 8-276.

BOWLING: Stephenson 16.2-4-44-0; Pick 19-5-44-1; Hemmings 29-9-70-4; Cooper 17-3-54-1; Afford 25-6-82-1.

Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 7, Kent 5.

Umpires: R A White and H D Bird.

Glam v Northants

CARDIFF: Glamorgan, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 212 runs ahead of Northamptonshire

GLAMORGAN: First Innings 299 for 8 dec (H Morris 132, R J Shastri 50. BOWLING: Taylor 14-2-37-1; Thomas 21-3-61-0; Penberthy 17-5-37-2; Capel 22-6-27-0; Roberts 16-2-58-0; Bailey 23-5-61-3)

Second Innings

*A R Butcher not out	67
H Morris not out	28
Extras (b 2, lb 3)	5
Total (no wkt)	100

S P James, R J Shastri, G C Holmes, I Smith, R D B Croft, †C P Metson, S L Watkin, S Bastien and D J Foster to bat.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings

A Fordham c Metson b Watkin	13
N A Felton b Bastien	13
*R J Bailey c Butcher b Bastien	5
D J Capel b Foster	41
K M Curran lbw b Watkin	0
A L Penberthy c Metson b Bastien	7
W M Noon c Metson b Bastien	10
J G Thomas lbw b Foster	2
†D Ripley c Metson b Bastien	49
A R Roberts not out	17
J P Taylor b Watkin	2
Extras (b 6, lb 14, w 1, nb 7)	28
Total (80.4 overs)	187

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-24, 3-61, 4-69, 5-83, 6-95, 7-105, 8-129, 9-184.

BOWLING: Watkin 20.4-6-30-3; Foster 21-5-53-2; Bastien 22-6-39-5; Croft 13-3-35-0; Smith 4-0-10-0.

Bonus points: Glamorgan 7, Northamptonshire 3.

Umpires: J D Bond and A A Jones.

Other match

Camb U v Leics

FENNER'S: Leicestershire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 224 runs ahead of Cambridge University

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings 228 for 9 dec (M J Morris 60; L Tennant 4 for 54)

LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings

T J Boon b Pyman	108
*N E Briers c Turner b Bush	50
P N Hepworth b Lowrey	115
J J Whitaker c and b Lowrey	47
L Potter not out	73
B F Smith not out	47
Extras (b 3, lb 9)	12
Total (4 wkts)	452

M I Gidley, †P Whitticase, L Tennant, J N Maguire and C Wilkinson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-81, 2-232, 3-285, 4-358.

Umpires: B Leadbeater and D Fawkner-Corbett.

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MOTOR SPORT

British team edges ahead

THE convoy of 17 teams in the Camel Trophy — the driving and endurance event in Tanzania — has fallen 24 hours behind schedule after being bogged down in mud in the jungle (a Special Correspondent writes).

The British team of Andrew Street and Timothy Dray distinguished itself during the difficult drive through the Tanzanian jungle, leading the way to the refuelling station at Mikumi and then returning to help others.

The convoy has now reached the Njombe River but is expected to arrive in Bujumbura, Burundi, a day late. The event will finish there with two days of competitive tasks.

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SCOREBOARD	154	MIDDLESEX	414
DERBYSHIRE	466	NORTHANTS	450
ESSEX	416	NOTTS.	460
GLAMORGAN	430	SOMERSET	424
GLOUCS	434	SURREY	433
HAMPSHIRE	422	SUSSEX	412
KENT	421	WARWICKS.	456
LANCASHIRE	469	WORCS.	455
LEICS	442	YORKSHIRE	444

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GOLF

Ballesteros ready to build up some major momentum

By Mitchell Platts
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

ON THE eve of the Volvo PGA championship, Severiano Ballesteros spoke yesterday of the frustration and anxiety that have hampered his efforts to revive his career.

Ballesteros revealed that he has been compelled to accept that he can no longer spend the time on the practice range which he would like to, because of back pain. He agreed that his competitive edge was dulled in 1990 through his own attempt to ease the strain by refusing to play more than three tournaments in succession.

He ended his losing sequence when he won in Japan this month and came within a whisker of winning the Spanish Open the following week when he was beaten in a play-off by Eduardo Romero, of Argentina.

Ballesteros, however, has a spring back in his step, which is why he will be playing four successive tournaments, starting at Wentworth today through to the US Open next month. "I need to play more tournaments now and I feel like doing so," he said.

"My confidence is much higher. I feel more comfortable and that my game is ready. I now feel that I will win again; that it is only a question of when it will happen.

"But when you start playing bad then you keep going downhill until you eventually fall down. I think the reason behind my own fall was my back.

"I was trying to swing the club in a way which would let me avoid the pain. It is a subsconscious thing, but nevertheless you do it.

"My back has never been good and it will never be good. I would like to spend more hours on the practice range but it is not possible. For instance, I feel bad after practising my putting for 45 minutes. My back starts to hurt and I have to stop."

It was a putting tip from David Leadbetter, Nick Faldo's coach, which Ballesteros believes put him back on course, although he also acknowledges that he has worked with Leadbetter on a minor swing change which demands he makes less of a turn.

Leadbetter spotted that Ballesteros was not bringing his right shoulder into the stroke when putting, and that consequently he was staying too far behind the ball. Ballesteros experimented with a new stroke which led to him starting to hole putts again.

"There is no question that once you start putting better then there is less pressure on the rest of your game," Ballesteros said.

"My putting is not as brilliant as it was. It can still be good but not brilliant. But I can still hit the shots which some call miracle shots, some call spectacular shots, but which I just call great shots.

"I think my game right now is very much as it was before when I was winning the major championships. I'm still aggressive.

"But I do feel I have to play a little more. Last year, I never kept the momentum going."

Mike Harwood, of Australia, is the defending champion. With all of Europe's leading players, including Nick Faldo and Ian Woosnam, competing, he will do well to retain his title.

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	471	4	10	186	3
2	155	3	11	376	4
3	452	4	12	483	5
4	501	5	13	441	4
5	191	3	14	179	3
6	344	4	15	468	4
7	399	4	16	380	4
8	398	4	17	571	5
9	460	4	18	502	5
Out	3,361	35	In	3,584	37
Total yardage: 6,945					Par: 72

Stupples upset for Uzielli

By Patricia Davies

IT WAS a day of famine off the course and feast on it for Karen Stupples, of Kent, at the English women's amateur championship at Sheringham yesterday.

The student, aged 17, a member of Royal Cinque Ports, who qualified stone last for the matchplay stages, was too nervous to eat much breakfast before beating Caroline Hall, the leading qualifier, in the first round. She had even less chance of downing any lunch before meeting, and beating, Angela Uzielli, the defending champion, in the second round.

Two down with five to play against Hall, Stupples stunned her England junior international colleague by winning three of the next four holes and then holing from 18 feet for a par four at the 18th to maintain her one-hole advantage.

"I was a bit nervous there," Stupples said. "I was shaking a lot but I think I was more nervous in the play-off when I had a four-foot putt to qualify."

She had put herself in that stomach-churning position by driving onto the railway line at the last in her second qualifying round, but she was in no danger of going off track in the afternoon against a relatively parless Uzielli, who left her scoring touch in the locker-room after beating Fiona Brown in the morning.

FIRST ROUND: K Stupples (Royal Cinque Ports) bt C Hall (Filton), 1 up; A Uzielli (The Berkshire) bt F Brown (Heswall), 3 and 2; S Burnell (Burnham and Berrow) bt S Sharpe (Peterborough Milton), 4 and 3; K Speak (Clitheroe) bt K Rostron (Clitheroe), 4 and 3; T Williamson (Royal Cromer) bt S Morgan (Heswall), 3 and 1; F Edmond (Frinton-on-Sea) bt R Millington (Druids Heath), 6 and 5; W Dicks (Colchester) bt C Caldwell (Sunningdale), at 20th; K Whitehead (Sherwood Forest) bt J Gillings (Goodwood), at 19th; L Fletcher (Alnmouth) bt S Lambert (Coombe Hill), 5 and 4; R Boles (Beau Desert) bt M King (Rochford Hundred), 4 and 3; N Buxton (Woodsome Hall) bt M Sutton (Royal Blackheath), 1 up; K Tebbet (East Devon) bt B Laird (Sandiway), 3 and 2; K Egford (Bramshaw) bt J Sadler (Crews Hill), at 19th; J Morley (Sale) bt E Smith (West Essex), 6 and 5; J Hall (Felixstowe Ferry) bt J Hickmott (Wrotham Heath), 3 and 1; J Collingham (Sherwood Forest) bt A Gardiner (Wetherby), at 21st.

Second round: Stupples bt Uzielli, 3 and 2; Dicks bt Burnell, 3 and 1; Speak bt Williamson, 1 hole; Edmond bt Whitehead, 2 and 1; Fletcher bt Boles, 2 and 1; Buxton bt Egford, 7 and 5; Morley bt Tebbet, 3 and 1; Hall bt Collingham, 4 and 3.

Kitson call-up

Paul Kitson, the uncapped Leicester forward, has been called into the England Under-21 football squad for the eight-nation Toulon tournament, which begins on May 27.

HOCKEY

National League expands

By Alix Ramsay

THE Typhoo National League championship may already have been won and lost but there will still be everything to play for as 12 teams converge on Southampton for the promotion-relegation weekend.

Next season the League is being expanded with the creation of a second division while the first division will increase from 10 to 12 teams.

Ten of the sides in this weekend's play-offs qualified as winners or runners-up in the territorial leagues and they will be joined by Wimbledon and Doncaster, who finished bottom of the national league. But, with the top four teams going up to the first division, Wimbledon and Doncaster are confident of regaining their places.

Both teams feel they have gained valuable experience from their first season of national competition and they believe that will give them the edge. "I think we'll do better than we have done," Ann Baker, the Wimbledon manager, said.

☐ England begin the defence of the Fred Pringiers Trophy in Brussels today with a match against the Soviet Union and will face further opposition from Belgium and Switzerland in this event, which ends on Sunday (Sydney Friskin writes). The teams are preparing for the European Cup, starting in Paris on June 12.

ENGLAND SQUAD: S Rowlands (Havant), D Luckes (East Grinstead), D Faulkner (Havant), P Bolland (Hounslow), S Hazlitt (Army and Hounslow), J Potter (Hounslow), J Laslett (Teddington), M Grimley (Neston), R Davis (St Albans), R Garcia (Havant), J Shaw (Southgate), S Batchelor (East Grinstead), S Kerly (Southgate), P Nell (Havant), N Thompson (Old Loughtonians), D Williams (Havant).

YACHTING

Barnes and crew a cut above the rest

By Malcolm McKeag

AFTER a full day of racing on the Solent and the completion of the first round-robin of the Whitelink Royal Lymington Cup match race event, a pattern is emerging. David Barnes, of New Zealand, and his crew from Sir Michael Fay's latest America's Cup challenger, are clearly better than their opposition, with eight wins in nine starts. Of the other nine, Chris Law, of Britain, has the best score and looks most sure-footed, with six wins and three defeats in the first heat.

Two British newcomers at the grand prix level are keeping their heads up. Ian Southworth has wins against Thomasso Chiefi, from the Italian Il Moro America's Cup syndicate, Larry Klien (the dismissed American Cup skipper), Gunner Kranz, of Sweden, and Lawrence Mead, of Hong Kong. Andy Beadsworth, who earned his invitation to this grand prix by being runner-up to Southworth in the British nationals, had his revenge against his former victor, and has wins also against Mead, Kranz and Gordon Lucas, of Australia.

Marc Bouet, tactician to Marc Pajot in the French America's Cup campaign and winner of this event last year, lies in third place, with five wins, including a tie-break against Lucas.

But it is Barnes who looks best. His crew work is immaculate. Tim Spalding, a successful match racer on the British junior circuit and British Services champion, has been acting as one of the on-board observers, with a chance to watch all the crews. "Law's crew are good," he says. "But the Kiwis are a whole level above them. They are so co-ordinated it is sometimes impossible to see who has done which job."

PLACINGS: D Barnes (NZ), eight wins, C Law (GB), six wins, M Bouet (Fr), five wins, G Lucas (Aus), five wins, A Beadsworth (GB), four wins, T Chieffi (It), four wins, G Kranz (Swe), four wins, A Southworth (GB), four wins, L Mead (Hong Kong), three wins, L Klien (US), two wins.

EQUESTRIANISM

Swede ahead at Windsor

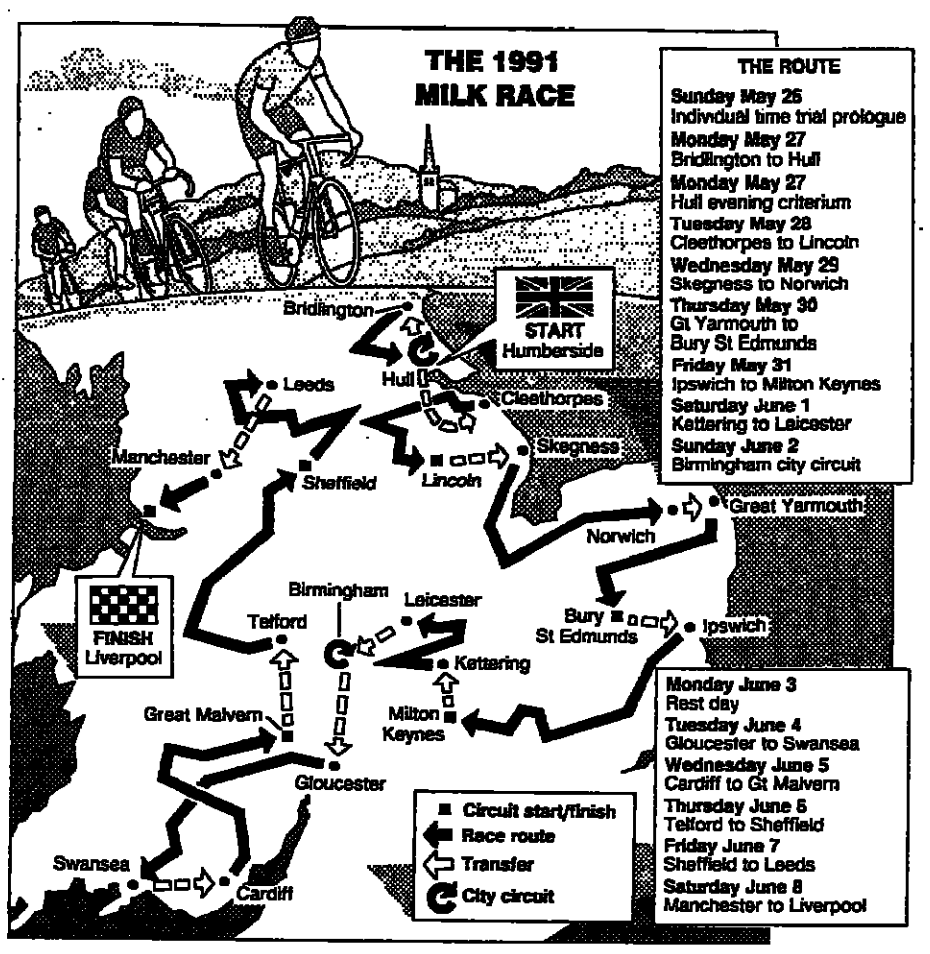
DAG Albert, aged 21, of Sweden, who is based in Gloucestershire, riding May I Do It, held the lead at the end of the first day's dressage at the Windsor International three-day event yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes).

In second place is the Bermudan, Nicola de Sousa, aged 25, whose family live in Bath, three points away on Camelot.

She is just ahead of Mark Todd and the promising Prince Willoughby, who won at Tidworth last week. The second half of the field competes today.

LEADING POSITIONS (after first day's dressage): 1, May I Do It (D Albert, Swe), 35.6 points; 2, Camelot (N de Sousa, Bermuda), 38.85; 3, Prince Willoughby (M Todd, NZ), 39.75.

Amateurs a threat in Britain's longest road race



THE ROUTE
Sunday May 26
Individual time trial prologue
Monday May 27
Bridlington to Hull
Monday May 27
Hull evening criterium
Tuesday May 28
Cleethorpes to Lincoln
Wednesday May 29
Skegness to Norwich
Thursday May 30
Gt Yarmouth to Bury St Edmunds
Friday May 31
Ipswich to Milton Keynes
Saturday June 1
Kettering to Leicester
Sunday June 2
Birmingham city circuit
Monday June 3
Rest day
Tuesday June 4
Gloucester to Swansea
Wednesday June 5
Cardiff to Gt Malvern
Thursday June 6
Telford to Sheffield
Friday June 7
Sheffield to Leeds
Saturday June 8
Manchester to Liverpool

Milk Race captaincy may hinder Sutton's defence

By Peter Bryan

SHANE Sutton, the year-round rider, starts the defence of his Milk Race title on Sunday when Britain's longest road race begins with a 1.5-mile prologue time-trial at Bridlington. The prologue traditionally determines who wears the yellow jersey of race leader on the first stage, an 88-mile run from Bridlington to Hull the following day.

From there the 1,150-mile race swings down eastern England and turns north to the Midlands. A zigzag course takes its 112 riders over a mountainous route into south Wales, then doubles back to Yorkshire before the final stage from Manchester to Liverpool, on the thirteenth day of racing.

Sutton, an Australian who has lived in England for the past ten years, captains Banana-Falcon, the only British trade team in the race. The squad had remarkable success on the Continent in the early season before dominating the home programme.

Sutton won last year against the sad loss of his father which, somehow, he appeared to shut from his mind until the final finish line. "Dad told me to stay in and win," he said. "It was his victory, not mine."

The happy-go-lucky Australian spent Britain's 1990-1 winter in his homeland with many of his team colleagues. He returned fit, only to break his right wrist in a training spill. While he may be content to play the role of captain rather than of a potential winner, if he is needed Sutton will be at the head of affairs in a trice.

His team, and the 16 others in the am-pro event, will be chasing a record prize list worth £68,000.

Last year, as overall winner, Sutton took £1,500. Whoever wears the yellow jersey after the finish on June 8 in Liverpool will pocket £10,000.

The six professional teams are matched against 11 amateur squads, which include the best from the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Australia, New Zealand and the fast-improving United States.

Jan Bogaert, the Belgian professional sprint specialist, who won five stages last year, returns with Harry Lodge, of Britain, in his team. Lodge has settled down well to the rough and tumble of continental racing and has a chance of winning overall. The professional teams, although restricted under international rules to representing one-third of the entry, are not likely to be contemplating an amateur victory.

Sutton: happy-go-lucky

If they are proved wrong, it could be by hidden talent among the Soviets, Poles or Czechs, all with previous race victories.

Apart from Banana-Falcon, Britain's entry is made up of a composite professional team, and amateur squads representing Great Britain and England. The England riders, although No. 2 in the pecking order, appear to be the home side with the best potential. Matthew Stephens and David Cook, who have been brought back from their Paris club, reinstated amateur Paul Curran, workhorse Peter Longbottom, Steve Farrell, and Simeon Hempsall — another "exile" from France — look good enough to steal a few victories.

The sponsors, the National Dairy Council, have said that the 1992 race will be the last under their banner. Negotiations have been taking place to ensure that the event, now one of the most important in Europe, survives.

BRITISH TEAMS: Banana-Falcon: S Sutton, J Clay, R Holden, C Lillywhite, K Reynolds, C Walker. GB composite pro: G Baker, D Baker, S Douce, A Timmis, J Walshaw, M Walsham.

GB amateur: N Dunn, M Gornall, T Hall, J Hughes, R Langley, A Perks. England amateur: D Cook, P Curran, S Farrell, S Hempsall, P Longbottom, M Stephens.

BOXING

Genuine world contender

By Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent

A BREATH of fresh air blew through British boxing on *Wednesday night at the London* Arena as Colin McMillan gave one of the most exciting exhibitions of boxing seen in a British ring since the days of Howard Winstone and Ken Buchanan.

Boxing experts caught their breath and shook their heads in disbelief as they watched the featherweight, aged 25, from Barking, lift the British title by dancing round Gary De Roux, the champion, from Peterborough, and finally stopping him with a bewildering combination of punches in the seventh round. It vividly brought back those old words "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee".

At long last, ringsiders admitted that the boxer they had studiously ignored — either because he was not one of the fashionable weights (heavy, middle or welter) or because he was not with one of the big, hype-powered managers — was the most complete world title prospect they had seen for a long time, far more elusive than Herol Graham and more positive as well.

Many experts see McMillan as a British Sugar Ray Leonard, so clever is he at avoiding punches and drawing his man on to his own blows. Although he does not have Leonard's punch, like Leonard he has a good chin and plenty of heart and, *as might be expected of a* man with seven O levels and three A levels, a serious head. At last Britain has a boxer who knows what he's doing.

According to Frank Warren, who promoted the bout on Wednesday, McMillan "will be the biggest star of British boxing. He has only just got started".

Barry McGuigan agreed: "He's tremendous, a breath of fresh air. He will definitely be a world champion. He doesn't have the punch at the moment but that'll come with time. But the best thing is he doesn't get hit."

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

BIRMINGHAM: Representative match (selected winners): Men: 100m: M Rosswess (Midlands), 10.30sec (wind assisted). 200m: L Samuel (Civil Service), 21.53. 400m: Samuel, 47.89. Discus: G Smith (Midlands), 54.82m (British junior record). Overall: 1, Midland Counties, 149pts; 2, Counties, 148; 3, Civil Service, 94.
SUNDERLAND: Invitation mile road race: 1, D Sharpe (Jarrow and Hebburn), 4min 18sec; 2, S Priest (Morpeth), 4:19; 3, S Snow (Highgate H), 4:20.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego Padres 7, Atlanta Braves 2; Philadelphia Phillies 8, Montreal Expos 1; St Louis Cardinals 5, Pittsburgh Pirates 3; Chicago Cubs 5, New York Mets 2; Cincinnati Reds 9, San Francisco Giants 4; Houston Astros 3, Los Angeles Dodgers 2.
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Oakland A's 2, Toronto Blue Jays 1; Boston Red Sox 4, Milwaukee Brewers 0; New York Yankees 8, Cleveland Indians 1; Detroit Tigers 9, Baltimore Orioles 5; Texas Rangers 5, Minnesota Twins 2 (12 inns); Kansas City Royals 3, Seattle Mariners 1; Chicago White Sox 5, California Angels 3.

CRICKET

RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Northampton: Essex 373-6 dec (D E East 148, A G J Fraser 61, A Richards 69 not out); Northamptonshire 207 (P Ellis 74; D J P Boden 5-73) and 386-3 dec (M Love 156 not out, D Clarke 94, N Stanley 55). Match drawn. Harrow: Middlesex 311-6 dec (R J Sims 105) and 207-6 dec (Aftab Habib 70, P Farbrace 51); Hampshire 239 (J R Ayling 86; C W Taylor 4-30, P N Weekes 4-58) and 194-8 (R M F Cox 77; P N Weekes 4-70). Match drawn. Belper Meadow: Derbyshire 302 (F Griffith 128 not out; S Barwick 5-88); Glamorgan 236-9 (P A Cottey 101). Worcester: Somerset 389-7 dec (H R J Trump 71, R J Bartlett 67, T Edwards 56 not out, M N Lathwell 51) and 84-4; Worcestershire 300-3 dec (C M Tolley 135, D A Leatherdale 67, D B D'Oliveira 50 not out). Leicester: Kent 379-4 dec (V J Wells 205, D J M Kelleher 68, M C Dobson 64) and 32-2; Leicestershire 252-8 dec (D Maddy 67).

SQUASH RACKETS

VALE DO LOBO: Portuguese championship: Men: Quarter-finals: R Norman (NZ) bt H Jahan (Eng), 9-3, 9-0, 9-2; C Robertson (Aus) bt P Marshall (Eng), 9-3, 9-5, 9-3. Women: Quarter-finals: M Martin (Aus) bt S Wright (Eng), 9-4, 9-7, 9-1; M Le Moignan (Eng) bt F Geaves (Eng), 10-8, 9-3, 9-0.

TENNIS

GENEVA: Women's European Open: Second round: M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz) bt K Habsudova (Cz), 6-1, 2-6, 6-1; T Whitlinger (US) bt K Piccolini (It), 6-3, 6-2; M Kidowaki (Japan) bt M Werdel (US), 1-6, 6-2, 6-4.
BOLOGNA, Italy: ATP tournament: Second round: T Muster (Austria) bt S Matsuoka (Japan), 7-6, 1-6, 6-3; P Cane (It) bt J Sánchez (Sp), 6-3, 7-5.
DÜSSELDORF: World Team Cup: Soviet Union bt Argentina, 2-1; Yugoslavia bt Germany, 2-1; Switzerland bt United States, 2-1.
STRASBOURG: Women's tournament: Second round: R McQuillan (Aus) bt P Langrova (Cz), 6-1, 6-1; L Gildemeister (Peru) bt E Brioukhovets (USSR), 6-3, 7-6; A Minter (Aus) bt K Quentrec (Fr), 6-2, 6-2; L McNeil (US) bt A Grossman (US), 6-2, 6-3; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt S Appelmans (Bel), 6-4, 6-3; C Kohde-Kilsch (Ger) bt A Kijimuta (Japan), 6-4, 6-7, 7-6; R Zrubakova (USSR) bt M De Swardt (SA), 7-6, 6-1.

CYCLING

PORTSMOUTH: Scottish Provident League: Fifth round: 1, C Walker (Banana-Falcon), 1hr 1min 33sec; 2, D Rayner (Buckler), same time; 3, A Timmis (British Eagle), same time. Overall: J Clay (Banana-Falcon).

YACHTING

MEDEMBLIK, Netherlands: Pre-Olympic regatta: Soling: 1, Hodder, Mason, Mont (Aus); 2, Henrickson, Anderson, Anderson (Den); 3, Bank, Seier, Secher (Ger). British placings: 19, Glynn, Fry, Gowers; 28 Pyatt, Hawkins, Carrol. 470 men: 1, Korhonen, Jarvi (Fin); 2, Bengtsson, Nystrom (Swe); 3, Stavenuiter, Stibbe (Neth). British placings: 10, Brotherton, Hemmings; 28 Merricks, Irish; 37 Pinnell, Simpson. 470 women: 1, Moskalenko, Moskalenko (USSR); 2, Taran, Oleksenko (USSR); 3 Zabell, Guerra (Sp). British placings: 6, Rees-Jones, Carr; 13, Raggatt, Barnham. Lechner men (first race): 1, Edgington (GB); 2 Quintin (Fr); 3, Hermelong (Ger). British placings: 14, Hutchcroft; 29, Aldridge. Lechner women (first race): 1, Buzzynska (Pol); 2, Lallevre (Fr); 3, Sensini (It). British placing: 5, Way.

SPEEDWAY

KNOCKOUT CUP: First round, second leg: Wimbledon 52, Kings Lynn 38 (102-78 on agg). BSPA (HEAT) TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP: Fourth leg: Milton Keynes 30, Long Eaton 27, Peterborough 20, Stoke 19. Final positions: 1, Long Eaton, 115pts; 2, Milton Keynes, 108; 3, Peterborough, 100; 4, Stoke 59.

FOOTBALL

BARCLAYS LEAGUE: Play-offs: Semi-finals, second leg: Second division: Millwall 1, Brighton 2; Notts County 1, Middlesbrough 0. Third division: Bolton 1, Bury 0; Tranmere 1, Brentford 0. Fourth division: Blackpool 2, Scunthorpe 1; Burnley 1, Torquay 0.
UEFA CUP: Final, second Leg: AS Roma 1, Internazionale 0 (agg: 1-2).
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Republic of Ireland 1, Chile 1
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group two: San Marino 0, Bulgaria 3 (in Serravalle). Group four: Austria 3, Faeroe Islands 0 (in Salzburg).
EUROPEAN YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Group five: England 3 (Barmby 2, Unsworth), Wales 0 (at Yeovil).
UNDER-15 SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL: Belgium 1, England 5.
GREEK CUP: Final, second leg: Panathinaikos 2, Athinaikos 1 (Panathinaikos won 5-1 on agg).
YUGOSLAV LEAGUE: Red Star Belgrade 5, Osijek 1 (Red Star win championship).
FRENCH LEAGUE: Marseilles 1, Nice 0.
POLISH LEAGUE: Legia Warszawa 0, Zaglebie Sosnowiec 0; Gornik Zabrze 1, Hutnik Krakow 1; Slask Wroclaw 2, Stal Mielec 1; Zaglebie Lubin 2, Ruch Chorzow 0; Motor Lublin 1, Olimpia Poznan 3; Lech Poznan 1, LKS Lodz 1; GKS Katowice 1, Zawisza Bydgoszcz 0; Wisla Krakow 4, Igloopol Debica 1.

GOLF

BERCUIT, Belgium: Women's European Masters: First round (GB and Ireland unless stated): 73: H Wadsworth. 74: P Gonzalez (Col), D Dowling. 75: S Waugh (Aus), J Larsen (USA), N Way. 76: S Prosser. 77: K Kell (US), M C Navarro (Sp), T Smith, S Robinson, H Dobson. 78: H Koch (Swe), M de Vries (SA), S Cranmer (Can).
SANDWICH: Prince's Challenge: Second round: 139: C Suneson, 71, 68. 140: M Nichols, 70, 70. 141: I Spencer, 73, 68; P Affleck, 70, 71; A Hare, 68, 73; S Edwards, 70, 71.
WENTWORTH: Corporate Cup: 40pts: I Pearce (Swinley Forest) and D Rickman (R & A), E Villacieros (Spanish Federation) and R Livraghi (Italian Federation). (Pearce and Rickman won on back 9). 39: J Brewer (Jersey Open) and I Langhout (Dutch Open). Other score: 32: E Innes and P Simpson (The Times).

RUGBY LEAGUE

OPENCAST BRITISH AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Dudley Hill 24, Haworth 16; Saddleworth 24, Woolston 11.

RUGBY UNION

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: French Armed Services 9, England Under-21 7 (at Dunkirk).
TOUR MATCHES: Australian Capital Territory 50, London Division 4 (at Queanbeyan); Vancouver President's XV 13, Orrell 39.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Texaco Trophy

10.45 (to finish)

EDGBASTON: England v West Indies.

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, 102 overs minimum

DERBY: Derbyshire v Somerset
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Warwickshire
HOVE: Sussex v Middlesex
THE OVAL: Surrey v Lancashire
SHEFFIELD: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Kent

Other match

11.0 to 5.30 or 6.0

FENNER'S: Cambridge University v Leicestershire

RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Belper Meadow: Derbyshire v Glamorgan. Bristol: Gloucestershire v Yorkshire. Market Harborough: Leicestershire v Kent. Worcester: Worcestershire v Somerset.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Windsor Horse Trials (Great Park).
GOLF: Volvo PGA Championship (Wentworth)
POLO: Gerald Balding Cup (Cirencester Park); BMW Prince of Wales Trophy (RCBPC, Winkfield); Queen's Cup (Guards, Windsor); Edinburgh Tournament (Edinburgh).
YACHTING: Royal Lymington Cup International Match Racing (Lymington).

IN BRIEF

Windsor hold out

WINDSOR Park defeated Alfa Romeo 11-10 in a League II polo match for the Queen's Cup/Prince of Wales trophy, played off at the Royal Berkshire club yesterday. Windsor, so far unbeaten, face Guardacre at Cirencester on Sunday.

The contest continues at Smith's Lawn this afternoon with a League II duel between Royal Pahang and Black Bears.

WINDSURFING: Penny Way, from Christchurch, Dorset, the world champion, has earned early selection for the 1992 Olympics to have the maximum time to prepare.

ATHLETICS: Carl Lewis, on trial at Houston, testified that he was "definitely sober" last January when arrested for drunk driving. He hit a curb because his steering failed. Lewis faces up to two years' jail and a $2,000 fine if convicted.

CYCLING: Adrian Hawkins, the Olympic squad rider who died at Herne Hill track, London, on Monday, had an enlarged heart and died from natural causes, the post-mortem examination showed.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Widnes are to pull down the stand at the Lowerhouse Lane side of their ground for safety reasons. It was found to be leaning.

WATER SKIING: World records are in prospect at the Carlsberg European Masters in Reading today.

FOOTBALL

Charlton is still uncertain of Kelly's calibre

By Peter Ball

JACK Charlton went into the international match against Chile on Wednesday knowing his side's continuing lack of goals was a leading problem to be overcome if the Republic of Ireland are to qualify for the 1992 European championship finals. The 1-1 draw offered a hint of a solution to the problem *but also the prospect that* another is looming on the horizon.

David O'Leary's injury — a depressed fracture of the cheekbone, which saw him taken off after seven minutes — is unlikely to have any long-term consequences for Ireland, apart from ruling him out of the match against the United States in Boston next week.

Although Paul McGrath, who was being rested, came off the bench to play with his usual quality, it was a reminder that, at the moment, there are no young players pushing through behind Ireland's ageing centre backs. Yet the problem is not an immediate one.

By contrast, the failure to take chances has been Ireland's most serious flaw for some time, and has already hindered their hopes of going to Sweden next summer. The draw at Wembley, when they might have won, and in the match with Poland last month, when they should have, cost them vital points.

Whether even Charlton sees the formation on Wednesday — five in midfield, supporting a single forward — as a long-term solution may be doubted. The performance of David Kelly, who filled the lone forward's role with distinction, playing with dash and verve, suggests he might help provide the answer.

"David has always been a very good goalscorer for us but I have always had problems trying to find a place for him in the team," Charlton said. So far, it appears Charlton has been less than convinced by the player; his other remarks leave the suspicion *he still feels* the same way, despite the goal which extended Ireland's five-year unbeaten home run to 25 matches.

"It was important our home record didn't go," he said. "But I still believe that, with Quinn and Aldridge to call on, we could have easily beaten Chile."

The impact of Quinn at international level these days is unarguable. Otherwise, statistics do not bear out Charlton's assertion. Kelly has now scored six goals in nine internationals; John Aldridge, the man in possession, has six in 39 matches.

Aldridge has been selected in the squad for Boston but reports indicate he will be required by Real Sociedad, his Spanish club, next weekend. Kelly will have another chance to stake his claim for a place against the United States but the time is surely near for him to be tested in the only way — in competitive matches.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND SQUAD: P Bonner (Celtic), G Peyton (Bournemouth), D Irwin (Manchester United), S Staunton (Liverpool), M McCarthy (Millwall), K Moran (Blackburn Rovers), R Houghton (Liverpool), A Townsend (Chelsea), P McGrath (Aston Villa), K Sheedy (Everton), A Cascarino (Aston Villa), J Sheridan (Sheffield Wednesday), A McLoughlin (Southampton), D Kelly (Leicester City), J Aldridge (Real Sociedad).

Germans produce fairest system

By Clive White

LOATH though anyone would be to disturb a winning formula or suggest that the excitement of the play-offs could be bettered — the voltage in the atmosphere at The Den on Wednesday night had to be felt to be believed — but one cannot help thinking that the play-offs were spicier in previous years.

In the seasons 1986-7 and 1987-8, when the first division was in the process of being trimmed to 20 clubs, the play-offs involved a team from the higher division and were all the richer for it, if only in terms of spectacle.

A return to that method, preferably involving two sides from the higher division, would lend the play-offs greater logic as well giving them a freshness which they now lack.

The Football League's argument against adopting such a formula is that they should be seen to be rewarding clubs for success rather than offering the under-achievers a second chance, hence the decision to promote Sunderland last season following Swindon Town's "demotion" rather than reprieve Sheffield Wednesday. Had that issue been settled on the field, we might have found out just who the under-achievers were.

The Continent were deploying play-offs long before the English, if one ignores the "test matches" which were introduced *in the 1890s to expand* the Football League into two divisions. The fairest system, though less of a money-spinner than its English counterpart, would seem to be that used in Germany where the third-bottom team in the Bundesliga plays off with the third-placed team in its second division.

Whatever the format of the play-offs and however desperate the football they foster, nobody can dispute that are an overwhelming hit with the supporters and the participating clubs' bank balance.

PLAY-OFF FINALS: Second division: Notts County v Brighton (Sunday, June 2, 3pm). Third division: Bolton Wanderers v Tranmere Rovers (Saturday, June 1, 3pm). Fourth division: Blackpool v Torquay United (Friday, May 31, 8pm).

Paulus out

Geneva (Reuter) — A groin injury has forced the defending champion and third seed, Barbara Paulus, of Austria, to withdraw from the European Open tennis tournament.

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THE TIMES
SPORT
FRIDAY MAY 24 1991

England well placed to beat West Indies as the first match of the Texaco Trophy is carried over

A glorious return by Botham

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

EDGBASTON (England won toss): England with six wickets in hand, need 76 runs from 28 overs to beat West Indies

DEVOTEES of the Ian Botham soap opera had no *need to attend yesterday; they* knew the script in advance. No sooner had the irrepressible Botham begun his latest England comeback than the opposition fell at his feet, as if fearful of spoiling the happy ending everyone craved.

If, this time, the bounds of credibility were stretched further than usual it was because Botham, at 35, is a cunning pussycat of a bowler rather than the roaring lion of old, and because the opposition was the most powerful team in the world, against whom he has never previously done justice to his inimitable talent.

In his present mood of resurgence, however, nothing seems beyond him. So, in his 99th one-day international, Botham not only improved his best bowling analysis but was in residence with the bat, in grim light, when this first Texaco Trophy game was adjourned to today.

England remain just about on course to win, although the *delicate state of the match was* illustrated by the fact that neither side seemed sorry to call it a day when bad light intervened for the fourth time.

If the 18,000 capacity crowd were denied a finish, few will have gone home feeling cheated. Instead, their talk will once again have been *dominated by the man who,* ten seasons ago on this very ground, settled a Test against Australia by taking five wickets for one run.

By comparison, yesterday's efforts might be thought mundane and yet, coming from Botham in his first international appearance for two years, they were anything but. His 11-over quota, bowled straight through, brought the wickets of Richardson, Greenidge, Logie and Hooper, four of the West Indies' top six. He also had two catches missed off his bowling, the survivors being Richards and Logie.

West Indies were consequently ailing fast at 121 for eight in the 45th over before an , unbroken ninth-wicket stand of 52, between Ambrose and Walsh, complicated England's task.

We should know by lunchtime today whether that partnership was enough to turn the game, but on this pitch it just might have done. Andy Atkinson, recruited in the winter by Warwickshire from Essex as their new head groundsman, will not be especially proud of his first international offering. Even allowing for the constant swing permitted by heavy cloud, the ball moved sideways too much and too often *for this form of cricket; the* pace, too, was inconsistent.

Gooch may well have favoured fielding first anyway but, in such conditions, he had little choice. It was a very good toss to have won and England did not waste their fortune.

Haynes had not recovered from his back trouble in time to open for the West Indies and neither of the new partners, Greenidge and Simmons, was ever at ease. DeFreitas was miserly and Lewis, bowling sharply, might have had Simmons lbw before he mistimed a drive to cover.

Botham was summoned, to matadorial cheers, for the 13th over. His first ball might have been delivered in a village charity match. Botham frowned and stretched stiffly. His second was of good length and Richardson, eyes ablaze, drove it head-high to Illingworth at cover. You never lose the knack, as Botham's expression told us all.

Greenidge nibbled fatally at a widish, rising ball in Botham's fifth over and at 48 for three the West Indies required one of Logie's calming innings. He responded by shovelling his first ball for six over square-leg and carving his second to cover where Lewis put it down.

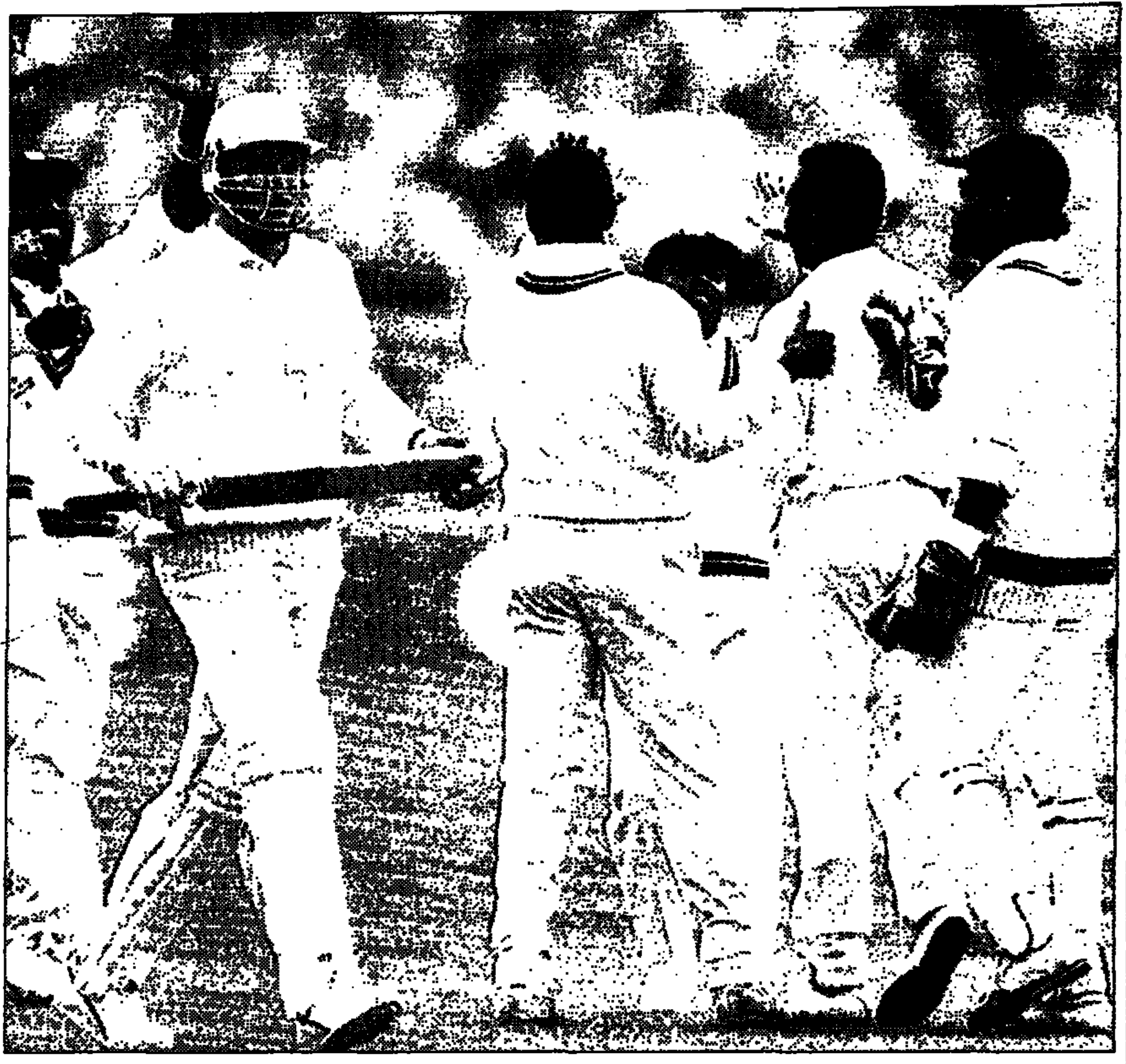
Richards was missed at slip by an over-casual Atherton but there was little profit to come. Logie repeated his first-ball shot and this time chipped into DeFreitas's hands and Richards, hitting across Gooch, was caught at mid-on off a leading edge.

Before lunch, Hooper and Logie were gone, too, the former to a beauty from Botham, whose third comeback was now painted in the glory of his first, in 1986, rather than the sourness of his second, three years later.

Sixteen runs from Lewis's last over gave England something to do. Gooch's leg-before dismissal to Ambrose's first legitimate ball gave them a lot more.

Hick and Atherton stayed watchfully together for 15 overs before the debutant, was undone by a classic piece of bowling by Marshall. Lamb and Fairbrother fell to Hooper and Atherton's proven ability to bat through an innings has seldom been more urgently required. Unless, of course, his partner takes it into his head to finish the job in style.

IAN STEWART



Time to celebrate: West Indies fielders show their delight at the dismissal of Hick for 14 on his England debut

EDGBASTON SCOREBOARD

England won toss

WEST INDIES

		6s	4s	Min	Balls
C G Greenidge c Russell b Botham *Cutting ball that seamed and bounced*	23	—	3	78	56
P V Simmons c Gooch b Lewis *Mishit short ball to mid-off*	4	—	1	28	25
R B Richardson c Illingworth b Botham *Driving to cover point*	3	—	—	20	21
*I V A Richards c Fairbrother b Gooch *Slider to mid-on*	30	—	4	62	45
A L Logie c DeFreitas b Botham *Sweeping to deep square leg*	18	1	1	26	29
C L Hooper c Russell b Botham *Edged swinging ball to wicketkeeper*	10	—	2	14	11
†P J L Dujon c Lewis b Illingworth *Diving catch at mid-on*	5	—	—	21	18
M D Marshall c Lewis b DeFreitas *Pushing wide of gully*	17	—	1	41	42
C E L Ambrose not out	21	—	—	75	59
C A Walsh not out	29	1	3	43	26
Extras (b 1, lb 5, w 6, nb 1)	13				
Total (8 wkts, 55 overs, 209 min)	173				

B P Patterson did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8 (Greenidge 3 not out), 2-16 (Greenidge 7), 3-56 (Richards 13), 4-78 (Richards 25), 5-84 (Hooper 1), 6-98 (Dujon 5), 7-103 (Marshall 4), 8-121 (Ambrose 5)

BOWLING: DeFreitas 11-3-22-1 (w 1) (6-3-4-0,4-0-15-1, 1-0-3-0); Lewis 11-3-41-1 (w 2) (5-2-9-1, 4-1-11-0, 2-0-21-0); Pringle 7-0-22-0 (w 1, nb 1) (one spell); Botham 11-2-45-4 (one spell); Gooch 5-0-17-1 (4-0-16-1, 1-0-1-0); Illingworth 10-1-20-1 (w 2) (one spell)

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: 13-1; 20: 44-2; 30: 84-5; 40: 108-7; 50: 134-8

ENGLAND

		6s	4s	Min	Balls
*G A Gooch lbw b Ambrose *Beaten by late inswing*	0	—	—	2	2
M A Atherton not out	35	—	2	126	84
G A Hick c Richardson b Marshall *Diving catch in gully*	14	—	1	66	49
A J Lamb b Hooper *Playing back, beaten by off break*	18	—	2	38	26
N H Fairbrother c Dujon b Hooper *Cutting off break too close to his body*	4	—	—	5	6
I T Botham not out	1	—	—	7	2
Extras (lb 7 w 8 nb 11)	26				
Total (4 wkts, 27 overs, 126 min)	98				

P A J DeFreitas, C C Lewis, †R C Russell, D R Pringle and R K Illingworth to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1 (Atherton 0 not out), 2-41 (Atherton 15) 3-80 (Atherton 27), 4-87 (Atherton 28)

BOWLING: Ambrose 6-1-18-1 (w 2, nb 6) (5-1-14-1, 1-0-4-0); Patterson 5-1-17-0 (w 4) (one spell); Marshall 6-0-17-1 (nb 5) (one spell); Walsh 6-0-20-0 (nb 1) (one spell); Simmons 2-0-7-0 (w 1, nb 1) (one spell); Hooper 2-0-12-2 (w 1) (one spell)

INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 10 overs: 31-1; 20: 62-2

Umpires: J H Hampshire and M J Kitchen

☐ PAUL Downton, the Middlesex and England wicketkeeper, who has struggled with impaired vision since a cricketing accident last summer, announced his retirement from the first-class game last night. The current championship match at Hove against Sussex will be his final game.

Downton, who played 30 Test matches for England, was struck in the *left eye by a bail while keeping wicket in a Sunday game against* Hampshire at Basingstoke last June. After lengthy treatment and rest he returned to the game later in the season but was always handicapped.

A specialist has confirmed, however, that the damage to Downton's eye is permanent.

Dorigo moves north to aid Leeds's future

By IAN ROSS

LEEDS United yesterday further underlined their determination to launch a sustained challenge for the League championship next season when they completed the signing of Tony Dorigo, Chelsea's England international full back.

Dorigo, who is valued at around £1.3 million, signed a four-year contract with the Yorkshire club after agreeing personal terms with Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager.

Although the clubs have yet to agree on the size of a fee, Wilkinson said that he was hopeful the matter could be resolved amicably, without having to resort to an independent tribunal.

Yesterday's deal took Wilkinson's spending to in excess of £2.5 million in less than 48 hours following the signings, on Tuesday, of Rodney and Raymond Wallace from Southampton.

Dorigo, who refused the offer of a new contract at Stamford Bridge, becomes the fourth Leeds player to have cost more than £1 million since Wilkinson succeeded *Billy Bremner as team man*ager two-and-a-half years ago.

"I do not have a bottomless pit of money available to me; there are restrictions," Wilkinson said. He has spent more than £10 million in an attempt to restore Leeds to a position of prominence within English football.

Dorigo, who had been linked with several leading clubs, including Liverpool and Rangers, over the past few months, said that his decision to move north was partly fuelled by his ambition to establish himself in the England international side.

"I have come to a tremendous club which has already proved itself to be ambitious," the Australian-born left back said. "They want the first division championship next season, and so do I. I do believe that this move can help me put the pressure on Stuart Pearce for the England No. 3 shirt.

"It will be a very difficult job to shift him but I am confident about my own abilities.

"I rejected the chance to stay at Chelsea for a variety of reasons which I do not want to go into. Let's just say that I had four, up and down, years at Stamford Bridge," he added.

Wilkinson said: "Tony will improve the quality within our squad and enhance our chances *of getting results in the first division next season.*"

After completing a statutory medical examination, Dorigo immediately left for London to join the England squad for the game against Argentina at Wembley tomorrow.

Lazio confident of Gascoigne option

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

OFFICIALS of Lazio, the Italian club, hope to finalise an option today to sign Paul Gascoigne when he has recovered from the knee operation that will keep him out of football until next year.

After further talks in London yesterday with Nat Solomon, the chairman of Tottenham Hotspur plc, Carlo Regalia, the Lazio general manager, said: "We hope to finalise agreement because of the goodwill on three sides, ourselves, Paul Gascoigne and Nat Solomon."

Lazio will make a down payment on a transfer fee.

Gascoigne, who will be 24 on Monday, is in hospital after being carried off in the FA Cup Final against Nottingham Forest at Wembley with a ruptured cruciate ligament. This forced the postponement of an £8.5 million transfer to the Rome club.

There were reports last night that a new player had emerged in the protracted game for Tottenham's future. An overseas buyer is believed to be awaiting the outcome of the attempts by the club to avoid being put into receivership by its chief creditor, the Midland Bank.

It is understood that the last resort being discussed by the Tottenham board is the sale of the White Hart Lane ground to the bank and *its lease* back. The ground is on the books at £21 million, but in a depressed property market might fetch no more than £12 million. It must also be doubted how Tottenham would be able to find a rental well in excess of £1 million a year.

If that deal fails, there remain at least two possibilities: either the bank puts the club into receivership, or the directors stall by requesting that the club be put under administration, a method of freezing the assets and preventing the bank getting at them.

The advantage to the buyer is that by waiting for the club to pass into the hands of the bank, it would be likely to be cheaper.

Speculation that Robert Maxwell, the chairman of Derby County, might re-emerge to mount a takeover attempt at White Hart Lane, after reducing his asking price for *County by half* to around £4 million, was unconfirmed. The newspaper publisher was in the United States yesterday.

At least two consortiums have lodged buy-out bids with Hill Samuel, who are handling the sale of Derby.

Hooligans injured

ROME (Reuter) — Football hooligans threw rocks at police, set rubbish bins on fire and smashed car windows near Rome's Olympic stadium after the Uefa Cup final between Internazionale and Roma on Wednesday. Seven policemen and 13 supporters were injured.

Internazionale lost the second leg 1-0, but won the cup 2-1 on aggregate.

☐ The German football federation (DFB) said yesterday it would back government proposals to set up a databank of convicted hooligans after further trouble at an east German league match.

☐ Two Argentine players were arrested for assaulting police after fighting involving photographers broke out during a South American club championship semi-final between Boca Juniors and the Chilean champions, Colo Colo, which Boca lost 3-1, on Wednesday.

Three lifters are suspended

By JOHN GOODBODY

AS THE Sports Council yesterday announced that the number of positive drugs tests in Britain had declined in 1990-1, the British Amateur Weight Lifters' Association (BAWLA) suspended three leading competitors for not taking tests at a recent provincial championship. The trio face life bans pending personal hearings.

The three lifters are Mark Cullimore, who came second in the 1990 world powerlifting championships in the under-110kg class, Gary Banks, another leading competitor in this division, and Andy Bowman, a super-heavyweight who was third in the last British championships. BAWLA has also suspended their club.

All three come from the Thames Valley College *Gymnasium in Slough, one of* whose owners is Steve Pinsent — a former Commonwealth Games weightlifting champion who was jailed for three months in November 1989 for selling anabolic steroids.

Another person who trained at the gym was Tom Hawk, who died in July 1989 in a *strong-man competition in* Scotland. Police found hormone drugs in Hawk's room, although there is no evidence Pinsent ever sold anabolic steroids to him. In the fatal accident inquiry, Sheriff William Henderson concluded that the use of steroids had "contributed" to Hawk's death.

In the latest controversy involving the gym, four Sports Council officials arrived at the championships in Slough for the routine drug tests. Eleven people were randomly selected and two BAWLA of*ficials personally handed over* the forms to these competitors informing them they had to provide urine samples.

None of the trio appeared at the dope test centre. However, it is alleged that one lifter, carrying Cullimore's membership card, gave a urine sample before being identified as not *being Cullimore by a BAWLA* official.

Cullimore, who set a Commonwealth squat record of 375kg in the championship, said: "I have never taken anabolic steroids but I just do not believe there is fair testing."

Barbara Cornish, the co-owner, with Pinsent, of the gymnasium, said: "BAWLA is not very supportive of its members. We have done a lot of work to lift the image of the sport here and I do not think they recognise that the lifters were going to make this stand *against BAWLA* anyway. *This* just gave them a stronger opportunity."

Although the latest figures from the Sports Council show a slight decline in the number of positives from 48 to 41 cases, despite a 14 per cent increase in the number of samples, the council rec*ognises the problem of drug* abuse still exists. Its priority is now to extend out-of-competition testing.

Since Jeff Gutteridge, the pole vaulter, was found to have a positive drug test in 1988, during a surprise visit by a drug officer to Lanzarote, no British athlete has been tested out of competition abroad.

The council is also planning to tighten up on collecting samples from people in this country because too many are still unavailable to provide samples for the out-of-competition programme.

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Wembley provides added spur for supporters

By DENNIS SHAW

UNINFORMED travellers, lost in a huge exodus of football suporters between Birmingham and Wembley on Sunday, might conclude that *the stadium is staging the final* of the European Cup. Some 40,000 supporters from the West Midlands will merge with up to 15,000 from Merseyside creating all the carnival atmosphere of a leading sporting occasion.

Yet the event attracting such crowds is actually the Leyland Daf Cup final for third and fourth divisions clubs, with Birmingham City playing Tranmere Rovers.

Neither the competition nor the opposition matters to the huge following. It is the abiding attraction of playing in a Wembley cup final which has fuelled a remarkable response from long lost Birmingham supporters.

For weeks, they have been emerging from golf club bars, garden sheds and other leisure-time sanctuaries to rekindle old allegiances, plan for this one day back in the limelight and to find out just who is in the team these days.

There will be many at Wembley wearing the club's colours who will be watching the team play for the first time. For normal third division matches Lou Macari's team struggles to draw a crowd of 8,000, one-fifth of the Wembley following. But an afternoon on the big stage has attracted families, company parties, social club trips and the like to clamour for tickets.

During the weeks of ticket distribution, there have been physical threats to club staff and a successful appeal to the Football League to send more supplies.

"It's been quite remarkable," John Westmancoat, the club secretary, said. "When we qualified for Wembley we anticipated taking maybe as many as 25,000 supporters. To have up to 40,000 is amazing. A pity they do not come and see us each week. Most of them just feel that since Birmingham City has not played at Wembley for 35 years they had better not miss the chance now it has arrived."

Only those middle-aged supporters with long memories can recall Birmingham's last Wembley visit, an infamous 3-1 defeat by Manchester City. This was the FA Cup final of 1956, of Bert Trautmann's broken neck, when Birmingham had been favourites and local bookmakers made a killing. There was a furious dispute in the dressing room at half-time between the manager, Arthur Turner, and players over their fitness. With internal arguments still simmering the demoralised team simply did not perform in the second half.

Before that it was 1931 and another humiliating defeat by West Bromwich Albion. In 1975 Birmingham, then in the first division, met second division Fulham in an FA Cup semi-final replay at Maine Road and an injury-time goal by Mitchell knocked them out.

Such cup defeats, relegations, changes of ownership and managements have formed the St Andrew's agenda for so long that a day out at Wembley arrives from the realms of fantasy. Never mind the associate members label. It is a cup final at Wembley.

One or two members of the 1956 team plan to be there, including Len Boyd, the captain, who was involved in the row, and Eddy Brown, the colourful centre forward. Brown was known for shaking hands with corner flags when he scored, pausing on the touchline for a drink with a young supporter, or quoting Shakespeare. There is no such crowd-pleaser in the 1991 ranks.

One man who will not be there is the club's best known international before Trevor Francis — Gil Merrick, the former England goalkeeper. He was later manager of the Birmingham team which pioneered European competition, and which won their only trophy, the Football League Cup.

Merrick finds it hard to share the euphoria of the 40,000 supporters. His weekends are now reserved for a round of golf.

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